 **PHILIPPINES**

**Human Rights Council**

**38th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

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**LATVIA**

Speaking Time: 1 min 15

Speaking Order: 25 of 90

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines welcomes the delegation of Latvia.

We acknowledge the progress made by Latvia with respect to gender equality and advancing the human rights of women and other vulnerable groups.

We are pleased to note the increase in women’s participation in political processes, including the increase in number of women elected into the parliament.

The Philippines welcomes Latvia’s efforts to incorporate the requirements of the ILO Convention No. 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers into the country’s domestic laws.

In a constructive spirit, the Philippines presents the following recommendations:

1. Ensure effective implementation of laws and measures against hatred and discrimination on the basis of race, ethnic group, and religion;
2. Enhance efforts to prevent, investigate and address hate crimes, including facilitating the reporting of hate crimes by victims;
3. Ensure inclusive health policies and equal access to healthcare for persons with disabilities, including persons with Down Syndrome and their families;
4. Continue the process of ratifying the ILO Convention No. 189; and
5. Consider ratifying the ICRMW.

We wish Latvia every success in this review cycle.

Thank you, Chair. ***END.***