 **PHILIPPINES**

**Human Rights Council**

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

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**PALAU**

Speaking Time: 2 min

Speaking Order: 56 of 58

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of Palau to this session and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We recognize Palau’s constructive approach to the UPR process. We note Palau’s signing in 2011 of a number of core human rights treaties and, in this regard, encourage it to continue taking steps towards their ratification.

The Philippines also recognizes Palau’s committed efforts to advance the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups and to combat trafficking in persons.

In a constructive spirit, the Philippines presents the following recommendations for consideration by the Republic of Palau:

1. Harness regional and international cooperation in strengthening efforts to address trafficking in persons, including capacity building of law enforcers and other duty bearers;
2. Further strengthen efforts to protect the rights of children, including by establishing appropriate mechanisms or enhancing inter-institutional cooperation for the harmonious implementation of policies and programs on children; and
3. Ensure that climate change policies are responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups including women, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities.

We wish Palau a successful review.

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