 **PHILIPPINES**

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**39th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

01 November 2021, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

**SURINAME**

Speaking Time: 2 min 10 sec

Speaking Order: 45 of 55

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Suriname to the third UPR cycle and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We acknowledge the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the last UPR cycle, especially in the areas of human rights education, addressing trafficking in persons, and advancing protection for children.

We are pleased to note the implementation of programs to address gender-based violence, strengthen the capacity of duty bearers, and provide assistance to victims.

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

1. Continue to allocate sufficient funding to ensure universal access to education, especially for children in the rural areas;
2. Ensure greater stakeholder involvement in developing and implementing measures to prevent and address all forms of gender-based violence;
3. Continue to adopt an inclusive and participatory approach in climate adaptation initiatives; and
4. Take further steps to ensure the meaningful participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making on all matters affecting them.

We wish the Republic of Suriname every success in this review cycle.

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