 **PHILIPPINES**

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

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

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**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Speaking Time: 1 min 50 sec

Speaking Order: 46 of 63

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We laud Trinidad and Tobago for its ratification of the ICESR in 2018 and the ICCPR in 2019. We acknowledge the country’s technical cooperation efforts with the OHCHR on strengthening capacities to implement its international human rights obligations.

We are also pleased to note the efforts made to strengthen measures against trafficking in persons.

In a constructive spirit, the Philippines presents the following recommendations for consideration by Trinidad and Tobago:

1. Intensify capacity-building programs for public officials in combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and ensure the provision of adequate assistance to victims;
2. Continue to strengthen measures to facilitate the economic empowerment of women especially those in rural areas; and
3. Further strengthen efforts to address barriers to education with a view to enhancing school enrolment, attendance, and retention rates especially among girls.

We wish Trinidad and Tobago every success in this review cycle.

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