 **PHILIPPINES**

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**41st Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

16 November 2022, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

**REVIEW OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Philippines acknowledges South Africa’s recent accomplishments in preventing and combatting trafficking in persons, particularly the launch of the National Policy Framework in 2019 and conduct of capacity-building programs with the IOM.

The Philippines commends South Africa’s efforts to enhance its legislative framework against gender-based violence and femicide with the enactment of Criminal Law Amendment Act, the Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Act and the Domestic Violence Amendment Act.

The Philippine offers the following recommendations for South Africa to consider:

1. Further address the prevailing root causes of gender-based violence through measures that take a whole-of-society approach;
2. Enhance the implementation of laws enacted to prevent and combat gender-based violence, including the vigorous enforcement of legal actions against the perpetrators of violence.
3. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Lastly, the Philippines wishes South Africa a successful UPR.

Thank you. **END**