**The 41st session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of the Philippines**

**14 November 2022**

**Statement by Latvia**

Thank you, President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of the Philippines to the UPR Working Group and thanks for presenting its national report.

Latvia would like to **recommend** to the Government of the Philippines:

1. to re-join as a State Party to the Rome Statute of the ICC, and to fully cooperate with the ICC Prosecutor’s investigation;
2. to ensure that all anti-drug laws and policies are in line with the Philippines’ obligations under international human rights law;
3. to ensure prompt, independent and impartial investigations of all instances of extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, torture, and arbitrary arrests and detention of persons suspected of drug-related offences, journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders and civil society actors;
4. to take measures to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, free from persecution, intimidation and harassment;
5. to promote and protect the right to freedom of assembly, freedom of expression and media freedom, as well as the safety of journalists;
6. to consider extending a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders of the HRC.

Latvia wishes to the delegation of the Philippines success in the review.

I thank you.