 **PHILIPPINES**

Human Rights Council

**42nd Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

26 January 2023

Thank you, Mr President.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the esteemed delegation of the Republic of Korea and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

The Philippines lauds the Republic of Korea for the adoption of the third Strategic Plan for International Development Cooperation (2021-2025) and other related strategies that incorporate a human rights-based approach to development cooperation.

The Philippines commends the Republic of Korea’s firm commitment to core ILO conventions and the Global Compact on Migration as well as serious efforts to combat discrimination and hate speech against foreigners and migrants, and, in this regard, recommends sustained advancement in this area by:

1. Ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; and
2. Amending the relevant regulation that adversely impacts on migrant workers’ right to free choice of employment, particularly the limit on the number of times and reasons a migrant worker can change workplaces.

The Philippines likewise welcomes the many strides made in the promotion and protection of women’s and children’s rights. But as in any other country, more has to be done and, in this regard, the Philippines offers the following recommendations in the spirit of constructive dialogue:

1. Further strengthen the implementation of legislations and plans aimed at eliminating structures and norms that perpetuate gender-based discrimination, violence and abuse by allocating more human and financial resources, among other measures; and
2. Reconsider the plan to lower the age of criminal responsibility pursuant to CRC recommendations.

Finally, the Philippines wishes the Republic of Korea a successful review process.

Thank you, Mr. President. **END.**