**PHILIPPINES**

**Human Rights Council**

**43rd session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Universal Periodic Review of BURUNDI**

04 May 2023, Room XX

Speaking Time: 1 minute and 10 seconds

Thank you, Mr. President,

My delegation recognizes the steps taken by Burundi to strengthen its institutional framework on human rights, most notably the adoption of a new Constitution in 2018 that guarantees freedom of expression and the right to privacy, as well as the sustained increase in budgetary allocation for its national human rights institution.

As a fellow climate vulnerable country, the Philippines understands the difficult challenges faced by Burundi in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change on the full enjoyment of human rights of people in the most vulnerable sectors, particularly women and children who have been displaced due to environmental disasters. In this regard, the Philippines recommends the following:

1. Step up efforts to curb the spread of infectious diseases and reduce maternal and infant mortality among the internally displaced population, in accordance with the updated national health development plan and disaster risk reduction strategy; and
2. Strengthen relevant mechanisms to ensure that children in vulnerable situations including those internally displaced have equal access to quality education and basic health services.

The Philippines wishes Burundi all success in this review.

Thank you. END