**PHILIPPINES**

**Human Rights Council**

**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**30th Session, 3rd Cycle**

**UPR of CABO VERDE**

Salle XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva

 8 May 2018

Thank you, Mister Vice-President,

The Philippine delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of the Cabo Verde to the 3rd Cycle of the UPR process. We note with appreciation participatory process adopted by Cabo Verde in the preparation of its national report.

The Philippines lauds Cabo Verde on the improvements of its criminal justice system. We note in particular the criminalization of trafficking in persons and the protection guarantees and availability of redress mechanisms for trafficking victims. We also note the government’s efforts to align Cabo Verde’s national legislations with the requirements of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The Philippines commends Cabo Verde for the establishment of an Ombudsman. We recommend that Cabo Verde step up its efforts to strengthen its national human rights institution with the view to become Paris Principles compliant.

The Philippines welcomes Cabo Verde’s commitment to regularize migrants in irregular situation. We laud the government’s efforts to promote harmonious integration of immigrants under its National Immigration Action Plan. In this regard, we recommend that Cabo Verde consider acceding to the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions.

The Philippines remains concerned on the high incidence of poverty in Cabo Verde, especially among women and those living in rural areas. We recommend that Cabo Verde intensify its poverty alleviation efforts.

We wish Cabo Verde success in the continued implementation of its accepted recommendations.

Thank you, Mister Vice-President.