 **PHILIPPINES**

33rd Working Group Session on the Universal Periodic Review

**UPR OF ALBANIA**

Salle XX, Palais des Nations

­­06 May 2019

Speaking Time: 1 min. 50 sec.

Speaking Order: 56 of 68

Thank you, Madam Vice-President.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of Albania to this UPR process and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

My delegation acknowledges the progress made by Albania since its previous UPR in 2014, including carrying out justice reform to bring national human rights guarantees into full compliance with international standards.

We recognize Albania’s efforts towards the protection of the rights of the child through its adoption of the National Agenda for Children’s Rights 2017-2020 and the Juvenile Justice Strategy 2018-2021.

The Philippines also welcomes the progress made in the representation of women in public administration and in women’s access to economic support. We laud Albania’s efforts on women empowerment, as signified by an almost all-women composition of its delegation today.

In a constructive spirit, the Philippines presents the following recommendations:

1. Continue implementing policy measures on human rights promotion and protection and provide sufficient and appropriate human and financial resources to carry out its action plans;
2. Intensify efforts to foster multi-sectoral cooperation on programs to combat trafficking in persons;
3. Step up efforts to provide its duty bearers with training on assisting victims of gender-based violence;
4. Continue strengthening its referral mechanism to adequately and promptly assist victims of gender based-violence, in particular women and children; and
5. Continue the conduct of training and awareness-raising activities in the field of children’s rights.

The Philippines wishes Albania a successful review.

Thank you, Madam Vice-President. **END**