 **PHILIPPINES**

**Human Rights Council**

**35th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**

24 January 2020, Salle XX, Palais des Nations

**GUINEA-BISSAU**

Speaking Time : 1 min 30

Speaking Order : 9th of 79

Thank you, Madam Vice-President.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of Guinea-Bissau and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

My delegation acknowledges Guinea-Bissau’s efforts in implementing the recommendations from the last cycle.

We commend Guinea-Bissau for its ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families in 2018.

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

1. Further strengthen the implementation of poverty alleviation programs through partnerships with the international community;
2. Take further steps to improve school enrolment and retention rate especially among girls in rural areas; and
3. Ensure the effective implementation of its National Strategic Plan on Combating Drugs and Organized Crimes.

We wish Guinea-Bissau a successful review.

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