 **PHILIPPINES**

**Human Rights Council**

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

27 January 2020, Salle XX, Palais des Nations

**SWEDEN**

Speaking Time : 55 seconds

Speaking Order : 29 of 123

Thank you Madam President.

The Philippines welcomes the delegation of Sweden and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

While noting efforts to combat racism and similar forms of hostility and hate crimes, we remain concerned about the low number of resolved cases.

In a constructive spirit, the Philippines recommends the following:

1. Consider expanding the mandate of the Equality Ombudsman and allocate sufficient resources;
2. Improve the accessibility of effective remedies against any form of discrimination including hate crimes;
3. Strengthen legislation to ensure the full protection of the rights of its indigenous peoples especially to their ancestral lands and cultural integrity;
4. Consider ratifying the ICRMW (International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families); and
5. Continue to take concrete steps in ensuring the establishment of an independent national human rights institution that is fully compliant with the Paris Principles.

We wish Sweden a successful review cycle.

Thank you Madam President. **END**