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Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
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Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

The Philippines

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.
Contents

   Introduction .................................................................................................................................... 3

   I  Summary of the proceedings of the review process ................................................................. 3
      A.  Presentation by the State under review ................................................................................. 3
      B.  Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review ......................................... 3

   II. Conclusions and/or recommendations .................................................................................. 3

   Annex

      Composition of the delegation .................................................................................................. 19
Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-seventh session from 1 to 12 May 2017. The review of the Philippines was held at the 11th meeting on 8 May 2017. The delegation of the Philippines was headed by His Excellency Mr. Menardo I. Guevarra, Senior Deputy Executive Secretary at the Office of the President. At its 17th meeting held on 11 May 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on the Philippines.

2. On 13 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Philippines: Kenya, Paraguay and Switzerland.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the Philippines:
   (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/PHL/1);
   (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/PHL/2);
   (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/PHL/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, was transmitted to the Philippines through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

[To be completed]

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 95 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

[To be completed]

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

6. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below will be examined by the Philippines which will provide responses in due time,

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.
but no later than the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in September 2017:

6.1. Ratify all Conventions to which the country is not yet a party (Gabon);

6.2. Ratify and implement without delay the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);

6.3. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Angola, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Montenegro and Sierra Leone);

6.4. Consider acceding to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, recognizing the competence of its Committee (Uruguay);

6.5. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);

6.6. Promptly ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organisation (Guatemala);

6.7. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);

6.8. Adhere to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Croatia);

6.9. Ratify and adapt its national legislation to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (Guatemala);

6.10. Uphold the human rights mechanisms and the special procedures (Sudan);

6.11. Cooperate with Special Procedures by extending a standing invitation to them (Peru);

6.12. Extend a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Latvia);

6.13. Accept without prior condition, the request for a visit by the Special Rapporteur on extra judiciary executions and cooperate with her fully (France);

6.14. Extend an invitation to the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions for an official visit in line with UN terms of reference without any further delay (Germany);

6.15. Allow access to the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, arbitrary executions and remove conditions on her proposed visit that could compromise her impartiality (Ghana);

6.16. Permit the requested visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions (Hungary);

6.17. Respond positively and unconditionally to the request of the special rapporteur on extrajudicial killings to visit the country (Latvia);

6.18. Make public the findings and implement the recommendations of the Sub-committee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment arising from its visit to the country in 2015 (Liechtenstein);
6.19. Consider establishing or strengthening a national mechanism responsible for coordination, implementation, reporting and follow-up, in line with the critical elements (best practices) of the OHCHR global study and guide concerning national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (Portugal);

6.20. Make an effort aimed at implementing all the accepted recommendations (Zambia);

6.21. Continue its different reforms for the well-being and the full enjoyment of human rights by its population (Chad);

6.22. Ensure the precedence of provisions of international human rights treaties over national laws in cases of conflict (Slovakia);

6.23. Ensure the incorporation of the principles and norms of the international human rights law, especially of those treaties to which the Philippines is party, into its national legislation (Peru);

6.24. Ensure that domestic legislation conforms with the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other human rights instruments, fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC, and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Estonia);

6.25. Ensure the conformity of national legislation with the international legal instruments on human rights, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Gabon);

6.26. Promote legislation conforming fully to CEDAW (Japan);

6.27. Enact law to establish a national preventive mechanism in accordance with OP-CAT (Republic of Korea);

6.28. Expedite the establishment of an effective National Preventive Mechanism, as required under the OP-CAT (Slovenia);

6.29. Establish and ensure the proper functioning of the National Preventive Mechanism (Republic of Moldova);

6.30. Ensure that laws, policies and programmes aimed at protecting the human rights of women, elderly persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples are effectively implemented (Cuba);

6.31. Ensure that laws, policies and programs to protect the rights of women, elderly, persons with disabilities, and indigenous people are effectively implemented (Lao People’s Democratic Republic);

6.32. Strengthen the implementation of the measures set out in the five-year plan of action for elderly people (Morocco);

6.33. Promulgate as soon as possible a law to establish an effective national preventive mechanism against torture (Guatemala);

6.34. Continue work to improve its potential in the human rights field, particularly by strengthening national human rights institutions and completing the process of elaboration of the Philippines Human Rights Action Plan (Russian Federation);

6.35. Complete and implement effectively the National Human Rights Action Plan (China);
6.36. Continue the formulation and implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan (Nepal);

6.37. Accelerate the drafting of the National Human Rights Action Plan for the next five years and starting implementing it (Libya);

6.38. Develop the Third Human Rights Action Plan to guide its policy direction and ensure the implementation of programmes for even more robust promotion and protection of human rights (Thailand);

6.39. Expedite the process to put in place a Human Rights Action Plan (Uganda);

6.40. Publicize and implement the National Human Rights Action Plan (Kenya);

6.41. Strengthen cooperation with national and international human rights institutions in order to implement the National human Rights Action Plan (Mexico);

6.42. Ensure human rights training for state security forces in order to enhance their capacity to protect human rights (Ghana);

6.43. Provide adequate resourcing to the Commission on Human Rights and allow it to investigate alleged extrajudicial killings (Australia);

6.44. Ensure that the fight against crime strictly respects international standards (Peru);

6.45. Strengthen the campaign against illegal drugs (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

6.46. Continue its efforts to protect its people from the threat of drugs while upholding human rights values (Myanmar);

6.47. Take the necessary measures to combat drug trafficking, while ensuring that the methods used are in conformity with international standards (Haiti);

6.48. Ensure that all counter-narcotics operations are conducted in conformity with constitutional protections and international human rights obligations (United States of America);

6.49. Bring in line with international best practices the methods of combating the use of illegal drugs in the Philippines, namely in terms of prevention and alternative sanctions (Portugal);

6.50. Continue the holistic approach of the Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Illlegal Drugs focusing on law enforcement operations, as well as on the rehabilitation and reintegration of drug users (Romania);

6.51. Address the root cause of illegal drugs through development (China);

6.52. Adopt comprehensive and human centered approaches for its anti-illegal drug policy, particularly the provision of appropriate health measures (Thailand);

6.53. Continue efforts to combat drugs and crime, within the framework of the protection and respect of human rights (Lebanon);

6.54. Ensure human rights standards are observed in the current governments’ conduct of its campaigns against illegal drugs (Zambia);

6.55. Bring its methods of combating the use of illegal drugs into line with international standards (Timor-Leste);
6.56. Continue to realign its national procedures to combat drug trafficking with international standards (Egypt);
6.57. Enact effective legislations aligned with international standards to combat the use of illegal drugs (Maldives);
6.58. Employ methods that adjust to international norms, including human rights norms, to combat the consumption of illegal drugs (Guatemala);
6.59. Guarantee that all the Government’s methods of combating the use of illegal drugs are brought into line with international standards (Estonia);
6.60. Strengthen the international cooperation to combat illegal drugs and human trafficking (China);
6.61. Speed up the process for the adoption of the non-discrimination law (Georgia);
6.62. Adopt a comprehensive law against discrimination that is coherent with its social inclusion programs (Honduras);
6.63. Consolidate its recent progress through implementation of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation covering sex and sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status (Australia);
6.64. Eliminate discriminatory stereotypes based on gender (Honduras);
6.65. Strengthen efforts in the field of equitable justice through the Philippine Development Plan (Morocco);
6.66. Continue efforts to ensure protection of human rights for inclusive development, to reduce level of poverty, particularly in the rural areas and among the vulnerable strata of population (Uzbekistan);
6.67. Continue implementation of its Ten-Point Socio-economic Agenda and make skills-enhancement programs on the basis of Human Resource Roadmap for 2016-2022 (Pakistan);
6.68. Deepen its engagement and collaboration with communities in the implementation of development projects and social policies, which will ensure better buy-in and social outcomes for the affected communities. (Singapore);
6.69. Pursue steps made with the aim to face the effects of the climate change on the population (Algeria);
6.70. Examine the 2011-2028 National Plan for Climate Change in view of addressing the challenges in its implementation in consultation with all stake holders (Haiti);
6.71. Re-examine the Mining Law of 1995 in view of reinforcing its environmental provisions and sustainable development practices, which will help the mining industry to become one of the main contributors to the country’s wealth (Haiti);
6.72. Continue its efforts to implement the Paris Agreement on Climate Change including through multilateral cooperation (Myanmar);
6.73. Redouble efforts to put in place environmental regulatory policy to ensure the implementation of this development of plan (Qatar);
6.74. Stop the implementation of counter-insurgency programmes that target human rights defenders and civilians (Slovakia);
6.75. Continue efforts to combat terrorism, the drug trade and drug usage, within the framework of the Constitution, the law and international human rights standards (Iraq);

6.76. Respect the right to life and maintain the abolition of the death penalty (Haiti);

6.77. Consider not reinstating the death penalty, as per the bill introduced before the 17th Congress (Mozambique);

6.78. Abstain from reintroducing the death penalty (Luxembourg);

6.79. Reconsider any attempt to re-impose the capital punishment with the aim of not reintroducing the death penalty (Slovakia);

6.80. Preserve the right to life, do not bring back use of the death penalty as proposed in the Death Penalty Bill (Liechtenstein);

6.81. Respect its obligations under international law and refrain from the reintroduction of the capital punishment (Republic of Moldova);

6.82. Refrain from reintroducing the death penalty, in accordance with its international obligations, in particular those under the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aimed at the abolition of the death penalty (Switzerland);

6.83. Continue to uphold the implementation commitments, as a State Party to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Romania);

6.84. Respect its obligations under the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and refrain from the plans to re-impose the death penalty (Norway);

6.85. Uphold its international obligations and not reinstate the capital punishment (Portugal);

6.86. Cease all steps to reintroduce the death penalty, contrary to its obligations under the OP to the ICCPR; urgently accept a visit from the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, without preconditions or limitations; fully investigate and prosecute all cases of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances; take immediate steps to combat torture in the criminal justice system, including torture in police stations to extract confessions; and fully respect international human rights law in its efforts to combat the trade in and use of illegal drugs (Ireland);

6.87. Respect its obligations under international law as a State Party to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium);

6.88. Continue the implementation of the provisions of ICCPR Second optional protocol regarding the abolition of the death penalty and abandon plans to restore death penalty as a legal punishment (Lithuania);

6.89. Continue its support for the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New Zealand);

6.90. Maintain the abolition of death penalty in line with its obligations under the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Czechia);

6.91. Fulfil the obligations assumed as a State Party to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aimed at
abolishing the death penalty, and oppose any attempt to reinstate capital punishment (Uruguay);

6.92. Maintain its binding commitment to the second optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, thereby repealing legal propositions aiming at restoring the death penalty (Brazil);

6.93. Abide by its obligations under the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ukraine);

6.94. Abandon the plan to reintroduce death penalty that will be against the international commitments of the country (France);

6.95. Refrain from introducing the death penalty in the national legal system also in respect of international obligations (Italy);

6.96. Do not reintroduce the death penalty, consistent with Philippines’ obligations as a State Party to the Second Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);

6.97. Refrain from reintroducing the death penalty (Canada);

6.98. Refrain from reintroducing the death penalty and from lowering the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Bulgaria);

6.99. Maintain the protection of the right of life from conception to natural death (Holy See);

6.100. Take steps to put an end to extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, illegal arrests and acts of torture perpetrated by the police corps, private security groups or paramilitary and to investigate actions of the police dismantling all groups created in the margin of law (Costa Rica);

6.101. Guarantee the protection of all people against enforced disappearances and to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities (Sudan);

6.102. Without delay take measures to put an end to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and prosecute the perpetrators of these acts (France);

6.103. Establish necessary mechanisms to eradicate extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions by bringing perpetrators into justice and by intensifying the efforts to eradicate the use of torture and inhumane and degrading treatment (Spain);

6.104. Strengthen efforts to stop extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances in the country (Poland);

6.105. Put an end to extrajudicial killings including those related to the “war on drugs”, enforced disappearances, illegal arrests and detention, torture, harassment and other human rights violations (Slovakia);

6.106. Take immediate steps to stop extrajudicial killings and to conduct an independent and impartial inquiry into all enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings so that perpetrators of these crimes are brought to justice (Netherlands);

6.107. Take concrete measures to stop extrajudicial killings and the UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial killings should be invited to visit the country without conditions (Lithuania);

6.108. End extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, illegal arrests and detention, torture and harassment, including by effectively implementing criminal prohibitions against extrajudicial killings (Canada);
6.109. Take all necessary measures to prevent extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances and carry out impartial investigations to hold perpetrators accountable (Germany);

6.110. Immediately end extrajudicial executions and carry out an independent and impartial investigation on all enforced disappearances and extrajudicial executions in order to bring the authors of these crimes to justice (Chile);

6.111. Immediately end the campaign of extrajudicial killings, which may amount to crimes against humanity under international law (Ghana);

6.112. Protect and guarantee the right to life and to a fair trial also in the context of the campaign against drug trafficking, and take all necessary steps to guarantee a proportionate use of force by the security forces (Italy);

6.113. Take all necessary steps to ensure prompt, impartial and transparent investigations into alleged unlawful killings and other abuses during anti-drug operations (Hungary);

6.114. Condemn and put an end to unresolved homicides and enforced disappearances (Uruguay);

6.115. Immediately stop all unlawful killings and incitement to carry out killings in the name of the anti-drug campaign (Iceland);

6.116. Put an end to extrajudicial executions and torture, in particular in the context of the fight against drugs (Luxembourg);

6.117. Take efforts to eliminate extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances, and intensify efforts to carry out the prosecution of such crimes (Norway);

6.118. Publicly denounce extrajudicial killings and other abuses in the anti-drug campaign (Iceland);

6.119. Take due measures to prevent extrajudicial killings in the country and grant access to the UN Special Rapporteurs on Summary Executions and the Right to Health for impartial and credible investigations (Bulgaria);

6.120. Implement effectively the law against torture, in particular sentences or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatments inflicted to drugs traffickers (Angola);

6.121. Further strengthen measures to fully eliminate torture and all forms of ill treatment at every level, including by establishing the National Preventing Mechanism (Georgia);

6.122. Eliminate the obstacles that hinder the effective implementation of the Law to Combat Torture and fully comply with articles 18 and 19 of the Law, which foresee compensation and rehabilitation of victims (Chile);

6.123. Take all necessary measures to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in detention facilities, including through the provision of legal safeguards for detainees; effective investigations into allegations of torture, and the prosecution and sentencing of perpetrators (Austria);

6.124. Reject any incitement to violence in the context of the state-sponsored campaign against illegal drugs and hold perpetrators of such incitement accountable (Czechia);
6.125. Continue with strategies and programmes to put an end to violence against vulnerable groups, particularly women and children, ensuring child protection both online and offline (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

6.126. Take action to eradicate violence and discrimination against women and LGBTI persons, primarily in educational institutions (Mexico);

6.127. Take steps to meet the minimum standards for the treatment of prisoners (New Zealand);

6.128. Improve detention facilities, in particular to address overcrowding and sanitation problems (Republic of Korea);

6.129. Take action to reduce overcrowding in detention facilities and make a provision for separate detention facilities for children offenders (Uganda);

6.130. Strengthen the legal context, the institutions and the resources of the judicial system to guarantee independent judiciary (France);

6.131. Strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the capacity of the judicial system (Timor-Leste);

6.132. Strengthen criminal justice reform efforts in order to ensure a speedy and fair trial for all accused (United States of America);

6.133. Adopt measures to strengthen the administration of justice and the National Human Rights Commission on to enforce the action of the State against organized criminality (Costa Rica);

6.134. Continue its efforts on improving access to justice (Azerbaijan);

6.135. Strengthen the witness protection programme (Timor-Leste);

6.136. Ensure that all pre-trial detainees are brought before a judge without delay and expedite the cases of persons held under the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act (Liechtenstein);

6.137. Take further steps in order to eradicate impunity for killings (Croatia);

6.138. Undertake criminal justice reforms in line with international standards to ensure prompt investigations and trials for alleged perpetrators of human trafficking; extrajudicial killings, and sexual violence against women and children (Botswana);

6.139. Deepen the measures taken to ensure the fight against impunity, and guarantee to all victims of human rights violations compensation and the establishment of all adequate mechanisms for rehabilitation (Argentina);

6.140. Strengthen investigative and prosecutorial bodies to ensure thorough investigations into all killings, as well as appropriate prosecutions of perpetrators (United States of America);

6.141. Put an end to impunity, by ensuring impartial investigations and bringing to justice those responsible of extrajudicial executions and torture (Luxembourg);

6.142. End impunity and hold the perpetrators of enforced disappearance, extrajudicial killings and torture to account and facilitate access to justice for the victims of such violations (Slovenia);

6.143. Ensure thorough and independent investigations into violent deaths, and commit to bring to justice those involved in abuses, including security forces (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

6.144. Investigate thoroughly all extrajudicial killings (Portugal);
6.145. Ensure that extrajudicial killings are properly investigated and that the persons responsible are held to account in accordance with due process and the rule of law (Sweden);

6.146. Undertake a prompt and independent investigation into the extrajudicial killings related to the fight against illegal drugs and ensure accountability for perpetrators as well as justice, remedy and reparations for victims and their families (Czechia);

6.147. Appropriately investigate deaths which have occurred in the course of police operations associated with the war on drugs (New Zealand);

6.148. Effectively fight impunity by investigation of all cases of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances, committed by the police, the armed forces or non-state actors, and to bring all perpetrators to justice (Austria);

6.149. Conduct impartial, immediate and effective investigations in all presumed cases of extrajudicial or summary execution, including appropriate documentation of each alleged offense, preservation of evidence and compliance with procedural safeguards (Switzerland);

6.150. Thoroughly investigate and prosecute killings by private armies and vigilantes responsible for unsanctioned activities during the government’s anti-drug campaign (Sierra Leone);

6.151. Investigate thoroughly all deaths both involving state security forces for allegedly killing suspects in self-defence and those perpetrated by unknown assassins (Zambia);

6.152. Investigate thoroughly alleged extrajudicial killings and ensure accountability (Australia);

6.153. Ensure a credible, independent investigation with international involvement into unlawful killings (Iceland);

6.154. Conduct an independent and impartial inquiry into all enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings so that the perpetrators of these crimes are brought to justice (Ghana);

6.155.Prosecute persons implicated in such unlawful killings, including government officials and their affiliates (Iceland);

6.156. Investigate and fairly prosecute those implicated for engaging in torture or other forms of mistreatment (Hungary);

6.157. Adopt measures to prevent, eliminate and end impunity for all forms of sexual violence, including by improving the investigation and prosecution of sexual offences and ensuring that penalties are applied consistently (Canada);

6.158. Combat crimes committed against human rights defenders through prompt, impartial and transparent investigation hereof (Denmark);

6.159. Investigate and prosecute those responsible of using children in pornography (Uruguay);

6.160. Guarantee the rights of children in the context of criminal accountability and create the best alternative for improving the current system of youth accountability, in compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Estonia);
6.161. Reform the judicial system to provide rehabilitation to youth offenders and implement the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act (Kenya);

6.162. Implement effectively the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act as a mandate and do not pass legislation lowering the minimum age of criminal responsibility to avoid further criminalization of minor children and their ill-treatment and abuse in detention facilities (Austria);

6.163. Strengthen the protection of children’s rights, including by maintaining a minimum age of 15 years for criminal liability, and raising the age of sexual consent to 16 years old (Canada);

6.164. Maintain the age of criminal responsibility for children as it currently stands (Belgium);

6.165. Maintain the Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility and do not lower it (Sweden);

6.166. Reject any plans for lowering the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Czechia);

6.167. Abandon the plan to reduce the age of penal responsibility as it will lead to prosecuting children like adults prior to have given them the means to become responsible citizens (France);

6.168. Refrain from lowering the age of criminal responsibility in line with commitments under the Convention of the Rights of the Child (Germany);

6.169. Do not lower the minimum age of criminal responsibility for children (Kenya);

6.170. Take all necessary measures to promote the enjoyment of freedom of expression and of religion, and civil liberties (Botswana);

6.171. Redouble efforts to protect freedom of opinion and belief, and to promote 'media freedom' and the rights of journalists (Lebanon);

6.172. Create a safer working environment for journalists (Lithuania);

6.173. Take all necessary measures to provide adequate protection to journalists and human rights defenders, in particular regarding enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings (Estonia);

6.174. Take all necessary measures to protect the life of human rights defenders, journalists and other threatened persons (Germany);

6.175. Investigate all cases of threats, intimidation and attacks against media personnel and ensure that those responsible are held accountable (Latvia);

6.176. Guarantee the establishment of a safe and enabling environment for the work of human rights defenders, specifically through the adoption of a law for the protection and recognition of human rights defenders (Hungary);

6.177. Take steps to create and maintain in law and in practice a safe and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, including by acknowledging publicly their important and legitimate role of in the promotion of human rights, democracy and rule of law; simplifying the process to form associations; applying the good practices set out in HRC resolution 32/31; and to request and accept technical assistance including from OHCHR to fulfil these commitments (Ireland);
6.178. Establish an effective protection system for human rights defenders and journalists and ensure the free exercise of their rights to freedom of opinion, expression and association (Luxembourg);

6.179. Take necessary measures to provide adequate protection to journalists and human rights defenders (Norway);

6.180. Protect more effectively human rights defenders and journalists, especially through cooperation with civil society (Poland);

6.181. Ensure the protection of the rights of defenders, journalists and the political opposition (Ukraine);

6.182. Promote a safe, enabling environment for the work of Human Rights Defenders, through the adoption of a charter for the protection and recognition of Human Rights Defenders (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

6.183. Integrate indigenous and Muslim women in all realms of the political and public life (Angola);

6.184. Continue its endeavours in combating all forms of human trafficking (Azerbaijan);

6.185. Continue efforts to eliminate trade in men, women and children in order to exploit them in forced labour (Iraq);

6.186. Continue efforts to combat human trafficking and rehabilitate its victims (Lebanon);

6.187. Continue to strengthen efforts combating trafficking people, including under the strategic National Plan of Action to prevent online sexual exploitation of children and program for rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of human trafficking (Belarus);

6.188. Continue stepping up efforts in the area of combating trafficking in human beings, especially in women and children (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

6.189. Continue working with bilateral, regional and international partners to address trafficking in persons (Cuba);

6.190. Continue its national efforts to end human trafficking and sexual exploitation (Egypt);

6.191. Continue to work with bilateral, regional, and international partners to address trafficking in persons (Indonesia);

6.192. Strengthen preventative cross-border anti-trafficking strategies and their implementation (Sierra Leone);

6.193. Increase efforts aimed at combatting trafficking in persons and all forms of exploitation of children by, inter alia, taking the necessary measures to prevent impunity for perpetrators (Holy See);

6.194. Take more effective measures to combat human trafficking, that affects in particular women and children (Poland);

6.195. Continue its efforts to tackle human trafficking, especially of children, through the effective implementation of the “Recovery and Reintegration Programme for Trafficked Persons” (Maldives);

6.196. Strengthen the fight against human trafficking in all forms, including by strengthening inter-agency coordination to combat cybersex in the community and
by securing cooperation from the private sector to prevent and respond to child online abuse (Netherlands);

6.197. Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons through measures including the strengthening of the legal framework and ensure safety and welfare of the victims of trafficking (Sri Lanka);

6.198. Develop a legal framework to explicitly address contemporary methods of trafficking (Uganda);

6.199. Ratify the 2014 International Labour Organization Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, and build criminal justice capabilities to increase investigation, prosecution and conviction of perpetrators of modern slavery (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

6.200. Carry out further efforts to combat human trafficking (Uzbekistan);

6.201. Sustain and promote the family, based on marriage between a man and a woman, as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Holy See);

6.202. Strengthen the domestic legal framework on job protection (Indonesia);

6.203. Continue its efforts to address the problem of unemployment and improve competitiveness in human resources through the effective implementation of current strategy 2016-2020 (Libya);

6.204. Provide sufficient resources for poverty alleviation programmes (Saudi Arabia);

6.205. Ensure that the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022, the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Program and the Sustainable Livelihood Program continue to be adequately financed, and more targeted in their delivery, so that assistance can reach those most in need across the country (Singapore);

6.206. Ensure adequate resources for poverty alleviation programs in line with the commitments to pursue inclusive growth (Viet Nam);

6.207. Ensure adequate resources for poverty alleviation programmes in line with the commitments to pursue inclusive economic development (Cambodia);

6.208. Ensure adequate resources for poverty alleviation programs in line with the commitment to ensure inclusive growth (Lao People’s Democratic Republic);

6.209. Continue to pursue efforts to eradicate poverty and discrimination against women (Yemen);

6.210. Continue to combat poverty and malnutrition, especially among children (Lebanon);

6.211. Remain focused on combatting poverty, particularly in areas where poverty is most prevalent and widespread (Malaysia);

6.212. Continue its fight against poverty with a focus on upholding respect and observance for human rights (Ecuador);

6.213. Ensure effective implementation and monitoring of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act, in line with international obligations regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights, by increasing access to modern contraceptives (Brazil);

6.214. Ensure that Executive Order No. 12 pertaining to the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act is fully implemented in order to meet the
needs for modern family planning and to secure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (Sweden);

6.215. Continue undertaking efforts to implement the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act (New Zealand);

6.216. Ensure full and equal access to modern contraceptives, including in rural and indigenous communities (Denmark);

6.217. Guarantee medical care for persons suffering from drug addiction (France);

6.218. Further strengthen the Community-Based Rehabilitation program for drug addicts, inpatients and out patients for their integration in the society (Pakistan);

6.219. Continue to allocate the highest budgetary priority to public education (Viet Nam);

6.220. Continue allocating budgetary priority to public education (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

6.221. Continue to prioritize the budget for public education (Saudi Arabia);

6.222. Continue to intensify efforts to further increase the enrolment of children into schools (Brunei Darussalam);

6.223. Continue to enhance laws and policies of access to education for the most disadvantaged learners, as done through the Alternative Learning System Program (Holy See);

6.224. Given the positive strides made in public education, continue to ensure access to quality education to vulnerable and marginalized groups (Malaysia);

6.225. Continue its efforts to improve education in the country, to enhance the number of girls enrolled in pre-primary and primary education and to ensure compulsory and free education (State of Palestine);

6.226. Take urgent measures to modify legislation stipulating the precedence of the husband’s decisions on the wife’s decisions with respect to common property, the exercise of parental authority and custody of children (Argentina);

6.227. Continue its work to strengthen its policies to further promote gender equality and eliminate discrimination and violence against women (Brunei Darussalam);

6.228. Carry on the efforts to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Tunisia);

6.229. Work towards the economic empowerment of women and their enhanced presence in decision-making positions (Tunisia);

6.230. Approve the legal provisions that would allow to derogate the articles of the Family Code stipulating the predominance of the husband’s decision over that of the wife with regard to the common property and the exercise of paternal rights and the custody of children (Chile);

6.231. Continue working on measures to enable women to have effective access to the justice system (Honduras);

6.232. Take immediate steps to permit abortion in cases where a woman’s or a girl’s life or physical or mental health is in danger; where the pregnancy is a result
of rape or incest; and in cases of foetal impairment, with a view to decriminalizing abortion in the near future (Netherlands);

6.233. Take further steps to eliminate abusing the rights of the child (Republic of Korea);

6.234. Continue strengthening the national framework for the protection of children rights (Morocco);

6.235. Intensify the efforts to eradicate all forms of violence against children (Spain);

6.236. Carry on efforts towards the protection of children, namely those of indigenous populations (Tunisia);

6.237. Strengthen measures aimed at protecting children against violence and all kinds of sexual exploitation (Algeria);

6.238. Amend the age of sexual consent from 12 years to 16 years (Sweden);

6.239. Take prompt actions to protect children against sex abuses and exploitation (Poland);

6.240. Further efforts to protect children against all risks of sexual or economic exploitation (Qatar);

6.241. Ensure that victims of grave violations receive timely, effective and appropriate services through the Monitoring, Reporting and Response System for children affected by conflict (Belgium);

6.242. Take measures in order to fully guarantee the rights of children, in particular with reference to treatment to juveniles in the judicial system and to prevent and combat the involvement of children in armed conflicts, their trafficking and their exploitation in the prostitution and pornography industry (Italy);

6.243. Ensure that all legislative amendments affecting children rights take into account the superior interest of the child in accordance to international standards (Mexico);

6.244. Undertake necessary legislative and other measures to prevent children to be engaged in child labour (Montenegro);

6.245. Increase efforts to combat child labour, that very often is also combined with hazardous or dangerous conditions of work (Poland);

6.246. Improve the practical application as well as incorporation of an inclusive approach of the rights of persons with disabilities in the adoption of the legislative measures to guarantee, particularly the equal access to public services (Spain);

6.247. Strengthen labour and economic policies in favour of persons with disabilities (Ecuador);

6.248. Continue its efforts to promote the rights of people with disabilities and ensure that persons with disabilities had equal access to all public facilities and services (State of Palestine);

6.249. Continue the efforts in social and health insurance to the benefit of children with disabilities (Tunisia);

6.250. Take necessary measures to preserve ancestral lands of indigenous peoples (Peru);
6.251. Continue the promotion and protection of the rights of migrant workers at all levels, in particular the Agenda of the Migrant Health (Sri Lanka);

6.252. Continue to engage bilateral, regional and multilateral partners towards better protection of rights and welfare of migrants and members of their families (Viet Nam);

6.253. Enhance its engagement with its partners towards better protection of rights and welfare of migrant workers and members of their families (Indonesia);

6.254. Continue concerted efforts to protect the rights of overseas migrant workers (Nepal);

6.255. Develop a permanent resettlement approach for internally displaced persons (Kenya);

6.256. Accede to and fully implement the 1961 Statelessness Convention and ensure that all otherwise stateless persons in the country have an access to a procedure that would facilitate the acquisition of a nationality (Slovakia);

6.257. Continue to guarantee the necessary to end statelessness, especially for those living in areas that have experienced armed conflict before peace (Egypt).

7. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.
Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the Philippines was headed by His Excellency Mr. Menardo I. Guevarra, Senior Deputy Executive Secretary at the Office of the President and composed of the following members:

• H.E. MENARDO I. GUEVARRA Head of Delegation Senior Deputy Executive Secretary, Office of the President;
• H.E. ALAN PETER S. CAYETANO Co-Head of Delegation Senator, Chair of Foreign Relations Committee Senate of the Philippines;
• H.E. EVAN P. GARCIA Co-Alternate Head of Permanent Representative Delegation Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the UN and Other International Organizations in Geneva;
• H.E. PILAR JULIANA S. CAYETANO Co-Alternate Head of Deputy Speaker Delegation House of Representatives of the Philippines;
• HON. SEVERO S. CATURA Co-Alternate Head of Undersecretary Delegation Presidential Human Rights Committee Secretariat Office of the President;
• MR. REYNANTE B. ORCEO Member Undersecretary Department of Justice;
• MR. ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA Member Director General Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency;
• MR. BAYANI S. MERCADO Member Assistant Secretary Department of Foreign Affairs;
• MR. EPIMACO V. DENSING Member Assistant Secretary Department of Interior and Local Government;
• MR. CARLOS BERNARDO O. ABAD SANTOS Member Assistant Secretary National Economic Development Authority;
• MS. CHARITO A. ZAMORA Member Assistant Secretary Office of the Executive Secretary, Office of the President;
• MS. MARIA TERESA T. ALMOJUELA Member Deputy Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva;
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• MR. ARNEL G. TALISAYON Member First Secretary and Consul Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the UN and Other International Organizations in Geneva;
• MS. MARIA ELENA CRISTINA D. MANINGAT Member First Secretary and Consul Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva;
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• MS. MYRNA CLARA B. ASUNCION Member Director National Economic Development Authority;

• MR. MASLI A. QUILAMAN Member Director National Commission on Indigenous Peoples;

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• MR. DENNIS A. SIERVO Member Chief Superintendent Philippine National Police Human Rights Affairs Office;

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• MR. ERROL ANGELITO BERNARDES LEONES Member Deputy Chief of Staff Office of Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano;

• MS. DENYA GRACIA J. UY-ANASTACIO Member Chief of Staff Office of Rep. Pilar Juliana Cayetano;

• MR. DEXTER ESTACIO Member Technical Officer Office of Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano.