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**PHILIPPINES**

Human Rights Council  
24<sup>th</sup> Session, Agenda Item 6  
Consideration of Universal Periodic Review Report

UPR of COLOMBIA  
19 September 2013

Thank you Mister President.

The Philippines appreciates the ready acceptance of our recommendation for Colombia to provide additional resources to anti-trafficking programs. This will go a long way in the global fight against this modern form of slavery.

Moreover, my delegation welcomes Colombia's voluntary commitment to advance the design of a public policy for human rights education and culture encompassing all state agencies and the general public. This augurs well with the acceptance of our recommendation for Colombia to continue to adopt human rights perspective in business and trade.

Mister President, the Philippines also welcomes Colombia's comprehensive normative framework for preventing torture and punishing its perpetrators as well as the wide range of measures that Columbia is currently implementing to prevent the crime of torture. It is in this light that the Philippines hopes, that in the future, Colombia accepts our recommendation that it considers ratifying the Optional Protocol on the Convention Against Torture.

In closing, Mister President, the Philippines joins other delegation in supporting the adoption of the UPR report on Columbia. END

