



**COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS**  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**Transcript: Video Statement of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines during the panel discussion on the human rights of older persons in the context of climate change at the 47th Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council**

***30 June 2021 | Delivered by Commissioner Karen S. Gomez Dumpit***

The Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines is pleased to participate in this panel discussion.

We thank the High Commissioner, the Independent Expert on the rights of older persons, and this Council for the initiative to look into the nexus of older persons' rights and climate change. We are hopeful that this will lead to a sustainable future that leaves no older person behind.

We affirm OHCHR's findings and recommendations in its analytical study on normative standards in international human rights law in relation to older persons.

Noting that because of an interplay of multiple factors, Older Persons face disproportionate impacts from the effects of climate change and mitigating policies adopted by governments. Yet, the sector is rarely visible in policies, plans, or strategies both as a vulnerable group and moreover as we have witnessed in this current pandemic, as key active participants in crisis response.

States and inter-governmental bodies must give greater attention to the daily lived experiences of older persons. A binding instrument will facilitate a universal baseline on policies, programs, monitoring and accountability mechanisms to ensure the rights of older persons are taken into account in the climate change mitigation and adaptation framework.

We urge Member-States to support a Convention that will define the normative elements of the rights of older persons and outline the duties of States to ensure every person a dignified life in older age including in the context of climate change. The outcome of a decade's work of the UN General Assembly's Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing is pivotal in this regard.

Maraming salamat po.