

**Transcript of the Video Statement of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines on ITEM 10 (Presentation of HC/SG country reports and oral updates - Philippines | Technical Assistance and Capacity Building)**

*on 7 October 2021 | Delivered by Commissioner Karen Lucia Gomez-Dumpit*

,Madam Chair

The Commission welcomes the commitment of the Philippine government to cooperate with the UN system and human rights mechanisms to improve the human rights situation in our country. We remain optimistic on what the UN Joint Programme for Human Rights in the Philippines will yield

However, we note that there are still continuing areas for improvement in addressing what the OHCHR has described as the climate of “widespread human rights violations and persistent impunity” (in the Philippines). Killings, harassment, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, and red-tagging continue amid the pandemic. The Human Rights Council must therefore ensure that the commitment to cooperate yields actual results, such as the reduction of violence on the ground, enforcement of accountability mechanisms, enabling a safe civic space, and effective remedies for victims and their families

In the end, the true test of commitment lies in the improved lives of people on the ground with transparency and actual cooperation demonstrated by government

Together with human rights defenders, victims and their families, the Commission is ready to fully engage with government, the Resident Coordinator, and the UN system to ensure that the Joint Programme lives up to its objectives

*.Marami pong Salamat*