

Transcript of the Video Statement of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines on the Report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons for the 4th Session of the Human Rights Council on 20 September 2021 | Delivered by Commissioner Karen Lucia Gomez-Dumpit

Excellencies, The Commission thanks the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons for her report on ageism and age discrimination. Her recommendations serve to aid law and policy development to address these issues at the domestic level

Ageist views are prevalent in this pandemic. Older persons have been discriminated due to ageism, existing social structures, and societal practices. Restrictive lockdown policies failed to consider Older Persons' specific health conditions, living situations, and other diverse attributes. In some countries, they were denied access to COVID-19 testing, life-saving measures, and vaccines which demonstrate that they are deemed less valuable members of society

We are firm in the position that a Convention on the rights of Older Persons is crucial to combat ageism and age discrimination. This binding instrument ensures the human rights-based approach which recognize older persons as rights holders and exacts accountability from duty-bearers who have the obligation to create an enabling environment for all Older Persons to age with rights and in dignity throughout the lifecourse

Maraming salamat po