



COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Statement of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines

52nd Regular Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council
Item 6: Universal Periodic Review

Adoption of the final outcome of the review of the Philippines (A/HRC/52/13)
24 March 2023*

Delivered by Chairperson Richard P. Palpal-Iatoc

Excellencies,

The outcome of the UPR of the Philippines comes at an opportune time as the incumbent Philippine administration nears its first year in office.

As the country continues to grapple with challenges, / we look toward the present dispensation to faithfully perform its duties and responsibilities in championing human rights to include the following courses of action:

- 1) To urgently exact justice to ALL victims of extrajudicial killings;
- 2) To respect the voices of truth, criticism, and dissent and refrain from acts of reprisals, intimidation, harassment, and violence against journalists, human rights advocates, and community workers;
- 3) To open up to constructive engagement with civil society;
- 4) To strengthen and respect the independence of the judiciary, the Ombudsman, and the NHRI;
- 5) To provide social security services to cushion the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and runaway inflation, especially for those disproportionately affected, and to address the worsening standard of living;
- 6) To heed the plight of the poor, indigenous peoples and minorities, women and children, LGBTQI persons, local and migrant workers, farmers and fisherfolks, persons with disabilities, older persons, the youth, and persons deprived of liberty and to address their concerns through a human rights lens;
- 7) To adopt a National Human Rights Action Plan that will incorporate recommendations from the UPR, the treaty bodies, and the special procedures mandate-holders;
- 8) To discharge its constitutional duties to all persons living in the Philippines and Filipinos residing abroad, using international human rights norms and principles as its highest standard of implementation.

As the government's watchdog, the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines will faithfully execute its mandate to promote and protect human rights. We will continue to monitor the government's adherence to its human rights obligations and voluntary commitments. We will not

waver from our duty to call out state and non-state actors when they stray from the path of compliance, due process, and the rule of law.

Maraming salamat po.

*Exact date for the Philippines is not yet set. According to the draft Programme of Work ver. 30 January 2023, agenda item 6 will be discussed on 24, 27, and 28 March 2023.