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DRAFT PHILIPPINE STATEMENT FOR THE  
2<sup>ND</sup> CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (2UPR)  
31 MAY 2012, 9 am

**KINGDOM OF NETHERLANDS**

Madame President,

The Philippines welcomes H.E. \_\_\_\_\_ and the delegation of Netherlands to the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review. The Philippine delegation appreciates Netherland's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights and its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

The Philippines notes Netherland's assertion that while institutional protection is essential in the protection and promotion of human rights, "what matters is these rights are observed in practice."

The Philippines observes, however, that while Netherland's national report speaks of various endeavors to promote and protect human rights in the countries that comprise the Kingdom of Netherlands, there is an apparent absence of a consolidated national action plan for human rights with policies and programs cutting across all governmental agencies and institutions. Hence, the Philippines recommends that Netherlands to formulate a national human rights action plan.

The Philippines notes the expansion of the protective mantle for children rights with the establishment of the Children's Ombudsman as a new independent institution that is tasked to promote the rights of children consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Philippine delegation appreciates the frank assessment of the Netherlands of the obstacles and challenges it has to hurdle in the implementation of the right to privacy especially in the area of protection of personal information.

As we begin another cycle of the review, the Philippines is reassured that the Kingdom of Netherlands will continue to pursue its goals of achieving the highest standards of human rights protection for its people. We wish the Kingdom of Netherlands success in its efforts to create a more just and rights-based society.

Thank you, Madame President.