



**IIMA**  
Human Rights Office  
Istituto Internazionale  
Maria Ausiliatrice



## **Oral Statement at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

### **Item 6: UPR Outcomes of The Philippines**

**Date: 24 March 2023**

**Delivered by: Phil Ryan**

Mr. President

Edmund Rice International, VIDES and IIMA commends the Philippines for its efforts in eliminating discrimination and to upholding the right to education through the Basic Education Development Plan 2030. The Philippines government must increase budget allocations in this regard so that all learners receive quality education including persons with disabilities, girls and others in vulnerable situations and improve infrastructure, the recruitment and training of teachers and the provision of textbooks and educational materials.

We further urge the Philippines to strengthen legislation, awareness-raising and the training of government officers in combating online sexual abuse of children and address the high level of gender-based violence against women and girls. In this regard we urge the Philippines to give support to councils for the protection of children by integrating child protection-related measures with specific action plans, monitoring and accountability systems.

The Philippines efforts to alleviate poverty are noted and we urge the government to fully implement the “Magna Carta of the Poor” (2021), and to further enhance human capital investment and social protection programmes especially with respect to eliminating child labor.

The Philippines has made efforts in the advancement of human rights and development but it needs further to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, free from persecution, intimidation and harassment.

Finally, we urge the Philippines to enhance its efforts within the framework of the national strategy for the protection of the environment and its response to climate change.

Thank you