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**Human Rights Council****Forty-fifth session**

14 September–7 October 2020

Agenda item 10

**Technical assistance and capacity-building****Presented by Iceland and Philippines: draft resolution****45/... Technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines***The Human Rights Council,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other relevant international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as provided in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993,

*Recalling also* Human Rights Council resolution 41/2 of 11 July 2019 on the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines, and the expressions of concern about the situation of human rights in the Philippines, including by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and human rights mechanisms, and noting the response of the Government of the Philippines in this regard,

*Condemning* all acts of intimidation and reprisal, both online and offline, by State and non-State actors against individuals and groups working to promote and protect human rights and those who seek to cooperate or have cooperated with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights,

*Recognizing* the cooperation between the Government of the Philippines and the United Nations country team, and taking note of the Government's efforts to further broaden positive engagement with the United Nations system through the Resident Coordinator, in particular through discussion of a multi-year United Nations joint programme on human rights, and noting the discussions on strengthening the role and in-country capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in providing technical cooperation and capacity-building assistance,

*Welcoming* in this regard the partnerships of the Government of the Philippines with international, regional and bilateral partners in the areas of human rights, accountability and the rule of law,

*Recognizing* the joint initiative of the Department of Justice and the Commission on Human Rights of a data-sharing agreement aimed at strengthening the capacity to investigate and prosecute cases of human rights violations, the launch in January 2020 of the National Justice Information System aimed at improving the efficiency and transparency of criminal



justice within the justice system, and the expediting of the resolution of cases of those in pretrial detention pursuant to applicable laws, the strengthening of the Justice Sector Coordinating Council and the roll-out of local mechanisms aimed at facilitating coordination among local justice sector agencies, including the police, prosecutors, judges, public attorneys and managers of detention facilities, among others,

*Recognizing also* the participation of the Government of the Philippines in the interactive dialogue of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Philippines at its forty-fourth session, in particular the Government's announcement of the creation of a review panel that would re-evaluate cases where deaths occurred during operations under the anti-illegal drugs campaign,

*Taking note* of the Philippine Human Rights Situationer, which contains the Government's account of the situation of human rights in the Philippines, including policy measures and responses to key allegations of human rights violations,

1. *Takes note* of the comprehensive report presented by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Human Rights Council at its forty-fourth session,<sup>1</sup> and encourages the Government of the Philippines to address the issues raised in the report and other remaining challenges in relation to the situation of human rights throughout the country;

2. *Underlines* the importance for the Government of the Philippines to ensure accountability for human rights violations and abuses, and in this regard to conduct independent, full and transparent investigations and to prosecute all those who have perpetrated serious crimes, including violations and abuses of human rights, in accordance with due process under national courts of law and in full compliance with its international human rights obligations;

3. *Requests* the High Commissioner and the Office of the High Commissioner, with a view to improving further the situation of human rights in the Philippines, to provide support for the country in its continued fulfilment of its international human rights obligations and commitments, taking into account the proposed United Nations joint programme on human rights to provide technical assistance and capacity-building for, inter alia, domestic investigative and accountability measures, data gathering on alleged police violations, civic space and engagement with civil society and the Commission on Human Rights, national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, counter-terrorism legislation, and human rights-based approaches to drug control;

4. *Urges* Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to encourage and support technical cooperation between the Government of the Philippines and the Office of the High Commissioner with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country in response to the Government's requests for technical assistance and capacity-building;

5. *Welcomes* in this regard the commitment of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Philippines and the United Nations system working in the Philippines and others, as well as international, regional and bilateral partners, to intensify the work of the United Nations on the ground and to assist the Government of the Philippines through effective human rights technical assistance and capacity-building measures;

6. *Underlines* the importance of, and the commitment of the Government of the Philippines to, continued monitoring, assessment and evaluation of the technical assistance and capacity-building programme, and requests the High Commissioner to present an oral update to the Human Rights Council at its forty-eighth session and to submit a report to the Council at its fifty-first session, to be discussed in an enhanced interactive dialogue, with the participation of the United Nations Resident Coordinator, on the implementation of the present resolution and on the progress and results of technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines.

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<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/44/22.