



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS, GENEVA

**NV-CDS-276-2024**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the latter's note dated 10 May 2024 (Reference TESP/DD/WPHRE/2024/01), has the honor to convey the enclosed comments of the Philippine Government on the draft plan of action for the Fifth phase (2025-2029) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Special Procedures Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 19 June 2024

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Attention: OHCHR Methodology, Education and Training Section  
Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
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**COMMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT  
ON THE DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE FIFTH PHASE (2025-2029)  
OF THE WORLD PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION**

- **On Paragraph 31, Item (c)(i) “Knowledge”**

“The equal rights of women, girls, men, boys, and people of diverse gender identities to enjoy all economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights, without distinction of any kind, **including distinction based on sex** [emphasis added], sexual orientation and gender identity,”

*The highlighted phrase appears to attempt to institute an aspect of gender theory that would deny the fundamental difference that exists between living beings: sexual difference.*

- Paragraph 31, Item (c) (ii) “Skills”

“**Challenge patriarchal and heteronormative ideologies** [emphasis added] and structures that limit girls and women from freely fully exercising and enjoying their human rights and uphold diversity and inclusion.”

*The highlighted phrase in this statement puts heterosexuality in an exploitative light. Heterosexuality, as should be recalled, is founded on biological sex difference, a basic and objective principle.*

The Philippines recommends the addition of the following statements aimed at clarifying the concept of human dignity in:

**Paragraph 31(c). “With regard to education concerning gender equality”  
(i) “Knowledge”**

- Human dignity is intrinsic to the person. It is not conferred subsequently (a posteriori), it is prior to any recognition, and it cannot be lost. All human beings possess this same intrinsic dignity, regardless of whether or not they can express it in a suitable manner.
- The inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.
- Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human persons and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standard of life in larger freedom.
- All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.