

PHILIPPINES

INTERVENTION (AS DELIVERED)

of

H.E. MS. IRENE SUSAN B. NATIVIDAD Deputy Permanent Representative

Panel 3: Adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters as drivers of migration

23 May 2017, 10:00am – 1:00pm ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters, New York

I join others in conveying our condolences to the UK for the terrible attacks that happened in Manchester yesterday.

I thank the panelists for their insights and sharing of best practices and their recommendations.

The Philippines knows only too well the urgency of building a climateresilient economy, being one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the effects of climate change.

We recognize how environmental factors, including those related to climate change and natural disasters, may lead to migration. In our own experience, most people displaced by disasters remain in our country, but cross-border displacement may also occur in post-disaster areas where people are compelled to leave due to loss of economic opportunities, food insecurity or health-related risks. Such is the case in our rural areas where climate change and natural disasters destroy the livelihoods of those who rely on agriculture, farming, livestock, forestry, and fishery.

In response to this, the Philippines has committed to international actions to counter the effect of displacement due to disasters and effects of climate change through the following: the Nansen Initiative and its follow up platform on disaster displacement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster-Risk Reduction, and the Paris Agreement.

Locally, the Philippines is mobilizing local governments to ensure that climate change initiatives are in place and disaster risk reduction and management plans are available.

Given the complexity of disaster and climate-induced migration, we echo the calls made by earlier speakers for international cooperation, and effective and strengthened implementation of these existing and other frameworks just mentioned to address this driver of migration in the global compact.

Thank you.