STATEMENT

of the

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
(to be delivered by First Secretary Maria Roseny Fangco)

General Discussion of ECOSOC: Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2022
UN Headquarters; 23 June 2022; 3:00-6:00 pm

Mr. Chair,

The Philippines congratulates and thanks you for judiciously leading this important meeting. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by Pakistan on behalf of G-77 and China and we wish to emphasize the following points in our national capacity:

1. The triple C challenges of conflict, climate and COVID-19 have given rise to humanitarian crises, pushing millions of people into extreme poverty, displacement and forced migration. Addressing the root causes of humanitarian emergencies as well as mobilizing global resources to meet the needs of affected people, particularly the

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1 Theme: Strengthening humanitarian assistance: good practices and mobilizing action in the application of international humanitarian law, the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and in response to the climate crisis
vulnerable - children, older persons and persons with disabilities are imperative and urgent.

2. Anticipatory action is our preferred humanitarian approach. Providing fast and flexible funding for preparedness and early response saves more lives. Climate forecasts allow for preparation and time to move people and animals to safety, reinforce shelters and harvest crops before a typhoon makes a landfall. The Philippines will continue to enhance its efforts on preparedness and pre-emptive action and disaster risk-reduction to mitigate the effects of environmental hazards. Empowering women, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples on climate action is an important priority.

3. Early warning systems must be multi-hazard and risk-informed. In the Philippines, local government units have been equipped with early warning systems including for geologic and hydrometeorological hazards. We have developed the app HunterHazard PH to provide land developers risk information and assessment of a particular area. The Philippine Space Agency was established partly to strengthen hazard monitoring and forecasting through earth observation.
4. Localization is key to the success of humanitarian action. We need to listen to the voices of the people in the frontlines of humanitarian emergencies. Empowering and supporting local organizations, including through capacity building and technology transfer is crucial.

5. The Philippines is committed to support UN’s humanitarian action through the Central Emergency Respond Fund and other pooled funds, in line with national circumstances and priorities. We encourage other Member States to support the work of UN OCHA and partners such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent in bringing timely assistance to communities in need.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.