



PHILIPPINES

Statement delivered by

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

H.E. ALLEN A. CAPUYAN
Chairperson, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples

**During the General Discussion on the
“Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples
and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”
(Item 6)**

**20th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The Philippines recognizes the significant contribution of Indigenous Peoples to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 2 on Zero Hunger and Goal 4 on Quality Education.

Paramount are mechanisms and approaches for effective implementation. The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is the State mechanism responsible for the design of policies, programs, activities and projects for the well-being of IPs taking into consideration their beliefs, customs, practices and culture.

To advance SDG 2, the Philippines, together with partners and Indigenous Peoples, has implemented the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Program (MIADP) that aims to sustainably increase agricultural productivity and integration in value-chains of organized IP farmers and fisher folks in southern Philippines.

Towards quality education and SDG 4, the Educational Assistance and Merit-Based Scholarship Programs has benefitted 32,094 IP grantees.

The Philippines recognizes that ancestral domains and land security are the material bases for the IPs' cultural integrity. The Philippines respects the time immemorial rights of IPs to their native title through the issuance of Certificates of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT). 252 CADTs have already been issued to cover 15 million hectares of land and water and benefiting more than 1.3 million IPs.

The Philippines has also made it mandatory for IPs to be represented in local decision-making bodies. There are 4,300 IP Mandatory Representatives (IPMRs) in the barangay, provincial, and regional councils. Beyond recognizing and protecting the rights of IPs, the Philippines is committed to empowering them to be able to participate in decision-making. Thank you.