



PHILIPPINES

INTERVENTION (AS DELIVERED)

of

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

Panel 1: Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

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Thank you Mr. Moderator.

For countries of origin such as the Philippines, one of the most tangible link between migration and development is the remittances send home.

The Philippines is the third highest recipient country for remittances. With close to 10 million overseas Filipinos, living and working overseas, their annual remittances totalled over 26 billion U.S. dollars last year, accounting for 9.8% of our GDP.

Remittances from migrants play an effective role in reducing poverty and inequality. They directly augment the income of recipient poor households. Remittances are associated with increased household investments in education, health, and entrepreneurship—all of which have positive effects on economic development.

The Philippine government has implemented financial literacy programs for our migrant workers to help them make wise decisions on spending and investing their hard-earned money. On the longer term, the government continues efforts towards poverty alleviation and job creation to address main drivers of migration. Skills upgrading, entrepreneurship training, credit access to small businesses put up by migrants are some of the programs the Philippine government is implementing and other countries of origin can do and partner countries can help support for all our migrants.

Thank you Mr. Chair.