



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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Agenda 18.11 Prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment

The Philippines extends its gratitude to the WHO Secretariat for the report and commends the ongoing efforts to strengthen measures on the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment. We emphasize the importance of sustaining accountability mechanisms and ensuring that safeguarding measures remain grounded on survivor-centered and trauma-informed approaches.

To support Member States in adopting and operationalizing the voluntary accountability framework, the Philippines would benefit from continued technical guidance from the Secretariat, particularly on how these measures may be integrated into existing national systems and emergency response mechanisms. Practical tools, model protocols, and capacity-building initiatives that can be adapted to country context would greatly help accelerate implementation, especially in resource-limited settings.

With global funding increasingly constrained, the WHO should prioritize sustainable strategies integrated into existing systems over creating parallel structures. Key priorities include strengthening institutional capacity, embedding safeguarding into routine operations, and scaling workforce training. Furthermore, supporting community-led reporting and accountability mechanisms will ensure long-term resilience.

The Philippines remains committed to working with WHO and other Member States in promoting safe, ethical, and accountable health and humanitarian systems, particularly for women, children, and other vulnerable populations.

Thank you.