



# PHILIPPINES

**Statement on Session 10 – Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world:  
How it affects countries in special situations: LDCs and LLDC. It will also discuss special  
challenges of MICS**

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**As a middle income country that is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> among countries most vulnerable to disasters, the Philippines constantly faces the challenge of its development gains being eroded or even reversed by natural disasters and the adverse effects of climate change.**

**Despite this, we have become one of Asia’s best performing economies, through a program of inclusive growth and poverty reduction that has transformed us from the economic laggard that we were in the past decade. To attain our citizens’ vision for “a prosperous, predominantly middle-class society where there is equality of opportunities and poverty has been eradicated”, we need to expand our economy by about 50% by 2022 from 2016 levels, equivalent to annual GDP growth of 7-8%. This will increase per capita income from USD 3,550 in 2015 to at least USD 5,000 in 2022. Consequently, poverty incidence will decline to 14.0 percent from 21.6 percent in 2015, equivalent to lifting about 6 million people out of**

**poverty, and hunger will almost be obliterated as the proportion of subsistence poor individuals falls from 8.1 percent to 5.0 percent.**

**This is not an easy task for a highly vulnerable country like the Philippines that is prone to both geological and hydrometeorological hazards. We all know how easily disaster and climate risks can limit the full development of the any country's potentials.**

**Therefore, our primary concern is to reduce the risks of communities and individuals exposed to the threats of climate change impact and disasters. Critical to this is the strengthening of resilience and reduction of risks of communities and individuals. We have learned that hazard maps, and risk and resiliency methodologies are useful in identifying and designing mitigation measures to minimize the impacts of hazardous events. They enable us to identify flooding, storm surge, and rain-induced landslide-prone areas, and those prone to tsunamis, ground ruptures, landslides and liquefaction.**

**Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is mainstreamed into our national development planning. We have methodologies for determining resilience levels of areas to natural hazards to serve as basis for planning infrastructure, housing, and other services, and programs and projects.**

**At the same time, climate change adaptation and DRR strategies are best formulated at the subnational and local levels where specific hazards can be defined.**

**For sectoral plans, we must incorporate strategies for reducing vulnerability reduction and accelerating recovery when risks materialize. These include redundancy routes to provide access to areas affected by hazards, preparation of business continuity plans; provision of social insurance, crop insurance, and life and other non-life insurance; and health promotion programs.**

**Thank you.**