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Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development

Statement by

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Theme 2

PHILIPPINE STATEMENT

Twenty-seventh Session of the CSTD
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**PRIORITY THEME 2: GLOBAL COOPERATION IN SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT**
15 April 2024, 15:00-16:30

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Thank you very much, Chair.

First of all, we would like to thank and congratulate the CSTD Secretariat for organizing this meeting and the exhibit and for preparing the reports on the priority themes.

Excellencies,

The Philippines agrees that scaling up efforts through international solidarity and cooperation is important to ensure inclusive and equitable collaboration mechanisms that can speed up technological uptake in developing countries, as also stated in the Report of the Secretary-General.

In line with this, the country engages in bilateral and multilateral cooperation in science, technology, and innovation through various modes of collaboration which includes joint research, joint scholarship, exchange of experts, technology transfer, workshops and other capacity building activities. Nevertheless, the Philippines recognizes limitations and challenges being encountered by cooperation mechanisms such as in aligned timelines, processes, criteria, and priorities.

To achieve common goals, the Philippines believes that there must be clear and well-defined objectives, effective coordination, adaptability, foresight and strategic planning, and adequate sustained funding. There should also be sufficient competent human resource to participate in these mechanisms. Such challenges could be addressed through sharing of knowledge and open communication among potential partners. This is also where the CSTD's role in facilitating dialogue and exchange among Member States evidently becomes more crucial. The CSTD can impart directionality in identifying priority areas for collaboration and guide Member States towards impactful and sustainable STI initiatives.

Theme 2

Please allow me to share that the Philippines with the United States of America and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has co-organized the workshop on “Harnessing STI for Disaster Risk Reduction” on 29 February to 01 March 2024 in Metro Manila, Philippines. Through our concerted effort, we were able to gather 14 Member States to discuss about the application of science, technology, and innovation as a tool in disaster risk reduction, how it works for different countries, and what can be replicated.

The workshop revealed that the development of STI is influenced by these policies and local contexts. The STI development challenges discussed fall under (1) human resources, (2) social and physical infrastructure and networks, and (3) data, information, and knowledge. The Member States were able to come up with policy recommendations which focused on governance and financing for STI, information system, and STI development and adoption through multi-stakeholder cooperation.

Excellencies, this is a concrete and direct example that CSTD can pave way for the establishment of networks and fuel the conduct of important discussions on the pressing issues in STI. We hope that this is just a start of a meaningful collaboration under the subject.

The Philippines remains committed in forging partnerships with international partners to create common STI solutions. We believe that with this kind of collaborative mechanisms, we can invite investments in STI, through funding and resources, not just in the development of technologies but also in policies, STI assessments, and foresight.

Please also visit the Philippines’ booth at the exhibit as we showcase our Fuel Cell R&D and Testing Center and Joint Research and Development on Philippine Tannins born through our partnerships with institutions in various countries such as in Japan, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Thank you.