

**DECENT WORK AND ECONOMİC GROWTH – INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

COUNTRY: REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

COMMITTEE: THE UNITED NATIONSDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

 First of all; as you are all probably aware, in the Philippines, the tourism sector is considered one of the backbones of the country’s economy. Aside from the rich flora and fauna found in the country, the Philippines’ culture attracts many people to visit the country, making the tourism sector a key economic and social development pillar with an important potential for sustainable growth, employment, technological innovation and investment, among others.

 The scale of economic activity has major impacts on the global and local environment, such as through pollution and waste, depletion of natural resources like water, energy and land as well as increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. According to the World Travel and Tourism Council’s report A Net Zero Roadmap for Travel and Tourism (2021), currently available estimates of emissions from the travel and tourism sector (pre-pandemic) amount from 8 to 11% of global GHG emissions, with the accommodations sector contributing at least 6% and the food & beverage sector 9% of this contribution.

 Tourism can be a driver of positive change as it cuts across major sectors for climate and environmental change such as transportation, infrastructure, food, and creatives. Shifting towards sustainable consumption and production in tourism offers vast opportunities to protect the environment while also fostering social inclusion and sustainable economic development through decent jobs.

 As a result, the tourism industry is the Philippines' crown jewel. As the Republic of the Philippines, we are aware of how important tourism is for the Philippines' economy and we support all labors related to tourism. We believe that tourism, which is already in a good position in the country, will be in an even better position in the future.