



## PHILIPPINE STATEMENT

**MR. ERNESTO M. PERNIA, PhD**  
Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning  
National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)

**51<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission on Population and Development**  
United Nations Headquarters, New York  
09 April 2018

Chair,

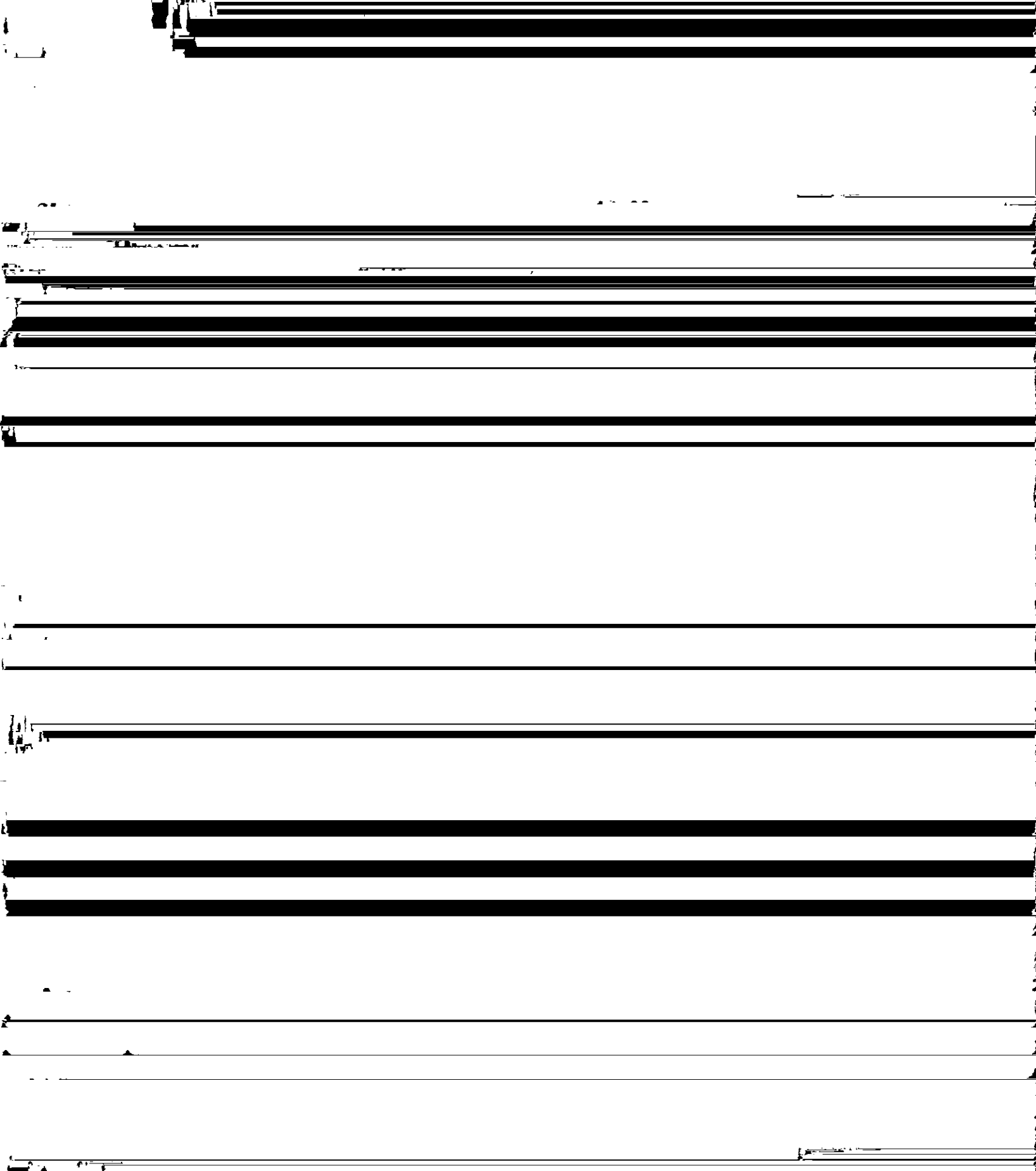
The Philippines is now on the path of consistently strong economic growth. This growth is among the development goals laid out by our government in the context of the Filipinos' long-term vision: "*Our Ambition 2040.*"

It envisions a prosperous, upper middle-class society where no one is poor; where people live long and healthy lives, and are smart and innovative; and a high-trust society where families thrive in vibrant, culturally diverse, and resilient communities.

Chair,

The country recognizes the importance of addressing pressing population issues that hinder development. With more than 105 million Filipinos, the challenge to strike a

report that we have successfully lifted the judicial temporary restraining order that has  
stymied modern family planning



We have more than 10 million Filipinos abroad who contribute to the national economy through their remittances. To ensure their protection and to promote their rights, we have set in place a number of governance initiatives.

We recently revised our Magna Carta for Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos to strengthen measures in the deployment and reintegration of overseas Filipinos. We maintain labor and consular offices to make welfare and legal services immediately available to them.

We continue to strengthen policy measures against human trafficking, illegal recruitment and exploitation through national laws and bilateral and regional