

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN) TO BE DELIVERED BY MR. ANTONIO M. LAGDAMEO, AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 134 ON ADDRESSING RACISM AND PROMOTING DIGNITY FOR ALL, AT THE MAIN PART OF THE 78<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA), NEW YORK, USA, 16 NOVEMBER 2023, 10 AM**

the strategic action plan, as well as provide guidance and substantive advice to the proposed Anti-Racism Office. We support the importance of an effective governance structure and trust that the implementation steering group will provide adequate oversight and ensure coherence and accountability in the implementation of anti-racism initiatives.

3. We also look forward to hearing updates on applicable Staff Regulations and Rules, including information on possible work or functions vis-à-vis those of other