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UnitingWorld is an agency of the Uniting Church in Australia

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Complaint Procedure Unit
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22 June 2018

Greetings from the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA).

I am writing on behalf of the UCA to:

1. **Express the Uniting Church in Australia's support for the public expressions of concern made by the United Nations Human Rights Council about the gross human rights abuses that have taken and continue to take place in the Philippines.**
2. **Request the United Nations Human Rights Council, through its special procedures mandate, send a special rapporteur to the Philippines to investigate the human rights conduct of the Filipino Government and the perpetration of extrajudicial killings.**

The UCA has a long-standing partnership at the national level with the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP).

Within this national partnership the UCA Synod of South Australia has developed a strong relationship with both the North Luzon and Middle Luzon Jurisdictions of the UCCP, while the UCA Synod of Victoria and Tasmania has a long-standing relationship with the South Luzon Jurisdiction.

The UCA has many Filipino members and a Filipino National Conference, a gathering of the Filipino members of the church which meets approximately biannually.

There are a number of support groups and social justice groups across the UCA which meet to learn about, pray for, support and advocate for our overseas partners including the Philippines and the UCCP. These groups seek to raise awareness of issues that are critical to our partner church and the lives of people in the Philippines.

The UCA is also in regular communication with the UCCP. It is through these channels and relationships, as well as many disturbing accounts in the media over almost two years, that this request has arisen. It comes with the support and encouragement of the UCCP.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Stuart McMillan
President, Uniting Church in Australia

Dr Sureka Goringe
National Director, UnitingWorld