

Report on the PH implementation of the following resolutions, covering 01 August 2018 to date:

- Resolution 73/149 “Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation (PH co-sponsored).”

PH implementation of UNGA Resolution 73/149 “Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation”, covering 1 August 2018 to date:

In line with its national policy on gender equality and women’s empowerment, the Philippines remains committed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, wherein gender is a cross-cutting concern. The Philippines gives particular attention to the elimination of harmful practices against women and girls.

The Philippines supports all efforts in eliminating female genital mutilation. While identified as a country that practices female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), there is, however, no official data that suggests that it is actually being practiced, neither is it classified as a problem in the country.

In this regard, the Philippines does not include Target 5.3.2. (Total and age specific rate of women subjected to female genital mutilation) in its SDGs report, as it is not applicable in the country.

Although, there have been unofficial reports that female circumcision is practiced by some Muslim ethnic groups. Health officials in these communities, however, have not identified FGM/C as a concern. There is indeed not much knowledge or data about it aside from three research studies on the matter, the latest of which was 2014, that described the ritual as widely accepted in the specific community but not a compulsory practice in Islam, and is regarded as a dying tradition.