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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES  
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES

STATEMENT BY MAURITIUS AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP-  
CONSIDERATION OF THE UPR REPORT OF MALDIVES

06 MAY 2015

Mr. President,

My delegation thanks H.E. Minister Maunoon for the comprehensive and detailed presentation of the national report of Maldives.

Mauritius welcomes the achievements and progress made by Maldives since its first review in 2010 to consolidate its legal framework and institutions for better protection and promotion of human rights in the country, in particular measures taken in the areas of education, health and housing.

We have taken positive note of some key developments in Maldives such as the establishment of the Ministry of Law and Gender, the enactment of Domestic Violence Prevention Act, the adoption of a new Penal Code that will strengthen the criminal justice system in line with international norms.

Mauritius would like to make two recommendations:

- (i) We recommend that Maldives expedites its efforts towards the enactment of the Gender Equality legislation and sets up appropriate mechanisms for its implementation; and
- (ii) Maldives undertakes necessary measures to strengthen the independence of the Human Rights Commission, including amending the 2005 Human Rights Commission Act with a view to aligning it with the Paris principles.

I thank you Mr. President.