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**STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA**  
**Review of Maldives**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council**  
**4 – 15 May 2015**

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Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Maldives to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

2. We are pleased to note that all three recommendations by Malaysia concerning gender mainstreaming, combating violence against women and children and human rights training were accepted by Maldives during its first Review. We note the efforts and progress made by Maldives in these areas.

3. In particular, we note positively the priorities given by Maldives to the empowerment of women including eliminating barriers to employment and participation in the political sphere, as well as adopting a zero tolerance for violence against women. We also acknowledge the efforts made by Maldives to strengthen its legislative measures on combating violence against women including through the enactment of its Domestic Violence Prevention Act of 2012.

4. While progress has been made, the challenges remain as highlighted in the report. In this regard, and in the spirit of constructive engagement, my delegation would like to offer the following recommendations for the consideration of Maldives:

- 4.1 **One:** To double its efforts in combating stereotypes on the role of women through facilitating the participation of women in political and public affairs and sensitizing its population on women's rights;
- 4.2 **Two:** To increase resource allocations to government agencies mandated to implement laws tackling violence against women;
- 4.3 **Three:** To enhance measures to address stereotyping against and lack of employment opportunities for persons with disabilities; and
- 4.4 **Four:** To strengthen its training and capacity building programme in the area of human rights for law enforcement officials.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**GENEVA**  
**6 May 2015**