

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
22ND SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE UPR
REVIEW OF MALDIVES
6TH MAY, 2015
STATEMENT BY NIGERIA

Mr. President,

The Nigerian delegation welcomes the delegation of Maldives and congratulates them for their presentation, which highlights the positive development in Maldives since their last review.

2. The Nigerian delegation commends Maldives for her achievement in the fields of health, housing and education, especially the "**No Child Left Behind**" policy. We note in their report that the drop in the rate of infant mortality has brought it at par with those of developed countries.

3. We further commend Maldives for their continuous effort in strengthening the legislative framework on human rights as well as promoting and cultivating a culture of respect for human rights at all levels of society.

Mr. President,

4. My delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

- i. We encourage the Government of Maldives to strengthen their Domestic Violence Act with a view to ending domestic and sexual violence against women and children.
- ii. We encourage the Maldives authorities to accelerate the passage of the gender equality bill;
- iii. We equally call on Maldives authorities to hasten the submission of the juvenile justice bill, aimed at establishing a juvenile justice and welfare system in the country.

5. Finally, we wish Maldives every success in its review process.

I thank you.