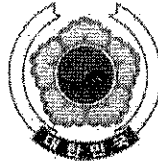


Wi, Seokyeon
1st Secretary



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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

The 22th Session of UPR Working Group
Review of the Republic of Maldives
Geneva, 6 May, 2015

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Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

We warmly welcome the delegation of Maldives and appreciate the efforts that Maldives has made to improve the human rights situations since its first review. In particular, we take note of Maldives' efforts to enact laws related to the protection of the vulnerable persons, including women and children. The ratification of Domestic Violence Prevention Act in 2012 and the recent drafting of a new Child Rights Bill are good examples of such efforts.

In the hope that Maldives continues to build upon its current achievements, we respectfully make the following **three** recommendations:

First, that Maldives favorably consider embarking on fundamental reforms to the judiciary to ensure the independence, impartiality, and transparency of the judiciary with a view to strengthening democracy and rule of law in the country.

Second, that Maldives take appropriate measures to fully guarantee the safety of journalists and human rights defenders, so that they can carry out their activities without fear of persecution or restriction.

Finally, that Maldives redouble its efforts to facilitate the participation of women in political and public affairs and combat stereotypes on the role of women.

Thank you, Mr. President. /End/