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**Statement of Albania**  
**22 Session of the Universal Periodic Review of**  
**Republic of Maldives**

Geneva, 6 May 2015

Mr. President,

Albania welcomes the delegation of Maldives to the UPR second cycle review today.

Albania is pleased to note the progress made regarding the implementation of the UPR first cycle's recommendations, aiming at preventing the violence against women, such as the adoption of *Domestic Violence Prevention Act, and Sexual Harassment and Abuse Prevention Act*.

Encouraging the Maldivian Government for further improvements in Human Rights area, Albania has the following recommendations:

- To continue work for enacting a *Gender Equality Bill*, as an important step to improve the country's legislation on non-discrimination and gender equality.
- To continue efforts for full implementation of *Prevention of Human Trafficking Act*, in order to identify child victims of trafficking and provide legal assistance to them.
- To banish from its Penal Code the provisions related to corporal punishment, including flogging for sexual intercourse outside of marriage, and death penalty.

Albania wishes the Maldivian Government a successful review session.

Thank you!

Mr. Harilla Goga  
Minister Counsellor