

(Check against delivery)

### **Bangladesh statement on Universal Periodic Review of Maldives**

We welcome the delegation of Maldives.

We are happy to note the actions taken to implement recommendations accepted during its first cycle of review.

Legislative measures adopted to strengthen the framework on protecting women, children and migrants from violence and sexual exploitation are noteworthy. We welcome the measures adopted to safeguard the rights of women and children and the measures for protection of women and children against violence. In this regard, we recommend that Maldives continues strengthening its efforts to facilitate the participation of women in political and public affairs.

Mr. President, we also acknowledge the multifarious challenges faced by the country. Climate change and its consequences impact significantly on the human rights of the people of Maldives.

Secondly, the national report reveals that breakdown of family structure had compelled some young people to join gang violence. We therefore, recommend that the state ensures the security and safety of family and the protection of family from experiencing negative consequences.

Thirdly, as the national report delineates that several attempts have been made to strengthen the **criminal justice** system, and access to justice, we hope the government will succeed in strengthening democracy, rule of law and justice system in the country.

Thank you.