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STATEMENT BY BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
DURING THE REVIEW OF MALDIVES AT THE 22nd SESSION OF
THE WORKING GROUP OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

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Delivered by:

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Mr. President.

Brunei Darussalam warmly welcomes the Maldives' delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Ms. Dunya Maumoon.

Brunei Darussalam commends the progress achieved by Maldives on its economic and human rights front, as well as its guarantee on the fundamental rights of individual as a central component of national development planning.

We are encouraged by Maldives' achievements in promoting women empowerment, especially the priorities set on eliminating barriers to employment and participation in the political sphere, enhancing economic empowerment and adopting zero tolerance for violence against women.

Brunei Darussalam also appreciates the government's pledge to ensure secured, affordable and accessible housing for its population, for instance through its public housing schemes and other projects.

To conclude, Brunei Darussalam would like to make two recommendations:

1. First, we **recommend** the government to continue implementing the priorities set for the promotion and protection of women's rights in the country; and
2. Second, we **recommend** Maldives to enhance efforts in the provision of adequate housing for its people.

Thank you.