



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

**24th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review
18 - 29 January 2016, Geneva**

**Review of Somalia
22 January 2016**

**Statement by Ms. Rishfa Rasheed, Counsellor
Permanent Mission of the Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

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Thank you Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Federal Government of Somalia to this review, led by Her Excellency Ms. Zahra Ali Samantar, Minister of Women and Human Rights of Somalia. We express our appreciation for the national report and the constructive engagement in this process.

The Maldives acknowledges the challenges faced by the Federal Government of Somalia including poverty, human resource constraints, not to mention the volatile post-conflict environment. Despite the enormous challenges, the Maldives welcome the ratification of the CRC and look forward for the situation of the children in the country to improve.

While noting these challenges, the Maldives wishes to make the following recommendations:

1. Take concrete measures to reduce child and maternal mortality rates
2. Take immediate measures to ensure under-nourished children are provided with nutrition supplements and access to clean water.
3. Take measures to ensure equal access to education, especially those living in rural areas.

The Maldives remains concerned by the large amount of internally displaced persons in Somalia, and especially those that do not have means to meet basic food needs.

Finally, let me wish the delegation of the Somalia success during this review, and in building the country in sustainable manner, with lasting peace and progress in the region.

Thank you Mr. President.