**26th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**31st October – 11th November 2016, Geneva**

**Review of Republic of Moldova**

**4th November 2016**

Statement by:

Her Excellency Dr Hala Hameed, Ambassador |

Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the delegation from the Republic of Moldova to this review. We express our appreciation for today’s presentation, and the national report. We commend the wholehearted acceptance of almost all the UPR recommendations Moldova received during its first cycle.

The Maldives supports the efforts made by Moldova in strengthening its legislative framework to combat torture, resulting in a steady decrease in the number of complaints of inhumane treatments registered by prosecutors from 2012 to 2015. The Maldives is also encouraged by Moldova’s commitment to creating a new National Human Rights Action Plan.

The Maldives therefore makes the following recommendations, that the Government of Moldova:

1. Protect Human Rights of persons with disabilities to ensure full access of rights for all, in compliance with the CRPD;
2. Continue to ensure legal protection for women and girls subjected to gender-based violence and trafficking.
3. Establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles.

To conclude, we wish The Republic of Moldova success during this review.

Thank you Mr. President.