**27th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group**

**1-12 May 2017, Geneva**

**Review of Bahrain**

**1 May 2017**

Statement by:

H.E Dr Hala Hameed,

Ambassador | Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Thank you Mr President,

The Maldives takes the pleasure in welcoming the delegation from the Kingdom of Bahrain to this review and thanks the delegation for their presentation as well as their national report presented for this review. We commend the Kingdom of Bahrain for having accepted 158 of 177 the recommendations made during the Second Cycle of its Universal Periodic Review.

The Maldives commends the launch of the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women 2013-2022, particularly the focus on the principle of providing equal opportunities and empowering women. The Maldives further commends the establishment of a National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking.

The Maldives recommends that the Kingdom of Bahrain:

1. Adopt a comprehensive national strategy against trafficking in persons;

Once again, the Maldives would like to acknowledge the work done by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain towards the implementation of the recommendations it has received during its two previous cycles. We wish the delegation of Bahrain every success during this review. Thank you.