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

**1st May – 12th May 2017, Geneva**

**Review of Ecuador**

**1st May 2017**

Statement by:

Her Excellency Dr Hala Hameed, Ambassador |

Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the delegation from Ecuador to this review. We express our appreciation for today’s presentation, for the national report and for other reports provided for this review.

The Maldives commends Ecuador’s commitment on the measures undertaken by the Government to implement the recommendations from the previous UPR sessions. The Maldives further commends Ecuador’s multifaceted initiatives to eradicate poverty, as well as the implementation of an “Inclusive Education Model” to promote greater enrolment of children with special needs.

The Maldives recommends Ecuador to:

1. Continue efforts to end child labour through the establishment of an interagency coordination mechanism at national and subnational level in order to implement the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour;
2. Continue its efforts on improving health through expanding its “Zero Malnutrition Program” to cover as much of its population as is possible.

The Maldives recognizes the progress made by Ecuador, especially through its “First Employment” program in lowering unemployment, and achieving one of the lowest unemployment rates in South America..

We wish Ecuador every success during this review.

Thank you Mr. President.