**44th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group**

**Tuvalu**

**08 November 2023**

Remarks by:

Mr. Adam Hamid

Counsellor of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

 *Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Maldives warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation from Tuvalu to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

My delegation welcomes the legislative measures taken by Tuvalu to establish the Office of the Ombudsman as the National Human Rights Institution. We also commend the efforts undertaken to improve the national healthcare system, which is reflected in the decline in infant and under-5 mortality rates and the high coverage of the pre- and postnatal health care services within the country.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following two recommendations:

1. Expedite the national procedures for the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
2. Continue to strengthen environmental data collection systems to assess the impacts of climate change on environmental sustainability and its effects on vulnerable groups.

We wish Tuvalu a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.