**45th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Belize**

**29 January 2024**

Remarks by:

Mr. Raaidh Saeedh

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

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high-level delegation from Belize to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the Government of Belize for the launch of Belize’s National Climate Change Policy, Strategy, and Master Plan for the period 2022-2026 which includes comprehensive set of inclusive national climate change policies, strategies, plans, and systems towards its commitment to rebuilding and recovering from the economic and social fallout caused by the COVID-19 crisis and aftermath of Hurricane Lisa.

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

1. Continue to strengthen efforts to improve the education system and ensure equal access to quality education for all, particularly for women and girls.
2. Strengthen efforts to ensure equal access to education, health services and work for persons with disabilities.

We wish our fellow Small Island Developing State Belize, a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.