**46th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group**

**Cyprus**

**30th April 2024**

Remarks by:

Maryam Fathika Fayaz, Second Secretary 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 distinguished delegation from the Republic of Cyprus to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends Cyprus for its positive efforts in promoting gender equality and mainstreaming gender perspectives into its public policies. We welcome the establishment of the National Coordinating Body to Combat and Prevent Violence Against Women, as it plays a crucial role in preventing and addressing violence against women.

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

1. Ensure and promote the mandatory reporting of cases of violence against children, intensify awareness-raising about its forms and negative impacts among children, parents and professionals working with children, and establish child-friendly helplines for children.
2. Continue to increase enrolment in education, particularly at the pre-primary level and strengthen human rights education.

We wish Cyprus a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.