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

**North Macedonia**

**2 May 2024**

 Remarks by:

Dr. Salma Rasheed, Chargé d’affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

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

The Maldives commends North Macedonia for the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the preceding review. In this regard, we welcome the adoptions of Strategy for Gender Equality, the National Action Plan for Gender Equality, Law on Prevention and Protection from Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

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

1. Allocate sufficient financial resources to the health sector to improve the quality and coverage of specialized maternal and child health services.
2. Increase efforts to end violence against women by providing specialized training to judges, law enforcement officials and to all actors involved in victim support.

We wish North Macedonia a successful review. Thank you, Mr. President.