**47th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Cote d’Ivoire**

**5th November 2024**

Statement by:

Mr. Mohamed Raaidh Saeedh, Attaché, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the high-level delegation from Cote d’Ivoire to this fourth cycle review and thanks them for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends Cote d’Ivoire for its commitment to advancing human rights since the third cycle review, highlighted by initiatives such as the National Development Programme 2021–2025, National Child Protection Policy, National Climate Change Adaptation Plan; and the revised National Strategy to Combat Gender-based Violence, and National Equality, Equity and Gender Policy. Further, we congratulate Cote d’Ivoire on the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

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

1. Continue awareness-raising campaigns on the importance of women’s participation in political life, especially in decision-making positions, and provide leadership training for women seeking to run for election or hold public office.
2. Allocate necessary human, technical and financial resources to the education system, focusing on rural areas, preschool education, vocational training and programmes to increase literacy.

We wish Cote d’Ivoire a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.