**2**8th **Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

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**Review of Argentina**

**6 November 2017**

Statement by

Ms Aishath Shahula

First Secretary/ Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the delegation of Argentina to this review. We express our appreciation for today’s presentation, and takes positive note of the national report.

The Maldives welcomes the progress made by the Government of Argentina in advancing women rights, particularly the adoption of the National Plan of Action for Prevention, Assistance and Eradication of Violence against Women 2017-2019. We also welcome the “Gender and Labour Market Bulletin” that contains the indicators on status of women in the labour market intiatives.

We further welcome the recent establishment of the 2016 Indigenous Peoples’ Advisory and Participatory Council enabling the participation in programmes and plans for indigenous communities, on issues related to education, health, gender, youth, child protection, older persons, the elderly, disability and assistance to victims.

The Maldives recommends Argentina to:

1. Continue the implementation of the National Health Programme for Indigenous Peoples in order to reduce inequalities in the health status of indigenous peoples and reduce morbidity and mortality among the indigenous population.
2. Continue the effective implementation of the National Plan of Action for Prevention, Assistance and Eradication of Violence against Women 2017-2019.

Thank you, Mr. President.