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

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**Review of Pakistan**

**13 Nov 2017**

Statement by:

Her Excellency Dr Hala Hameed, Ambassador |

Permanent Representative 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 Pakistan to this review. We express our appreciation for today’s presentation, and take positive note of the national report.

My delegation feels encouraged by Pakistan’s adoption of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and the allocation of funds for training, research and capacity building in the area of human rights. We commend Pakistan for its efforts in promoting and protecting the rights of children, women and older persons in particular, through a number of policy measures and strong legislations.

The Maldives is further encouraged by Pakistan’s Vision 2025 National Development Plan, which is in line with the SDGs and is impressed that the National Assembly of Pakistan unanimously adopted the 2030 Agenda as its own National Development Agenda.

The Maldives presents two recommendations to Pakistan :

1. Continue to implement additional measures to prevent discrimination against women and girls
2. Continue its efforts to strengthen the institutional mechanisms to combat and prevent trafficking of persons, specially that of children

We wish Pakistan every success at this Review. Thank you, Mr. President.