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**Statement by Malaysia**

**Review of Saint Lucia**

**37th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**18-29 January 2021**

Malaysia thanks the distinguished delegation of Saint Lucia for the presentation of their national report.

1. Malaysia welcomes the Government of Saint Lucia’s commitment to human rights and takes note of the progress it has been making in ensuring the rights and well-being of its people are safeguarded and respected. We are pleased to note that the Government had taken immediate action to protect the needs of the most vulnerable during the COVID19 pandemic, including in tackling unemployment relief, providing self-employed subsistence allowance, and placing moratoriums on bank loan repayments.
2. We are happy to see that the Saint Lucian Government has taken efforts to eliminate gender discrimination including in the education sector. Malaysia commends the Education Sector Development Plan (ESDP) 2015-2020 which aims to increase the accessibility and affordability of education for all citizens as well as promote gender equality. Malaysia further commends efforts to improve maternal and child health in Saint Lucia.
3. In the spirit of constructive engagement, Malaysia recommends the following recommendations:
	1. establish a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles; and
	2. endorse a National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy and ensure its swift and effective implementation with adequate resources.
4. Malaysia wishes Saint Lucia a successful review.

Thank you.

**GENEVA
20 January 2021**