**38th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Belgium**

**5 May 2021**

Statement by:

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Thank you, Madam President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high-level delegation from Belgium to this third cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives congratulates Belgium on submitting the voluntary midterm report in relation to the second cycle of the UPR. We also note the measures Belgium has taken in order to combat all forms of discrimination and racism.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

2. Develop a comprehensive national plan to combat climate change and address the negative impacts of climate change on health.

We wish Belgium a successful review. Thank you, Madam President.