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

**Mozambique**

**4 May 2021**

Statement by:

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*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Madam. President,

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

The Maldives acknowledges efforts made by the Government of Mozambique towards improving the operational capacity of the National Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman. We also note the reform of the Justice Administration System, including the review of the Penal Code and the Penal Procedural Code in line with recommendations from the Second Cycle.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following recommendations:

1. Coordinate with the relevant human rights bodies to acquire technical expertise and conduct programmes aimed at capacity building in order to fulfil reporting obligations under various international human rights conventions

2. Take necessary steps to ensure the economic empowerment of women, including those residing in rural areas.

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