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

**Palau**

**7 May 2021**

Statement by:

Ms. Hawla Ahmed Didi

Deputy Permanent Representative

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Madam Vice President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Palau – a fellow SIDS and member of AOSIS to this review. We express our appreciation for the submission of Palau’s national report and engagement in this process.

The Maldives takes positive note of the developments Palau has made especially the establishment of the national human rights committee, the adoption of Palau Climate Change Policy and the establishment of the Palau Severely Disabled Assistance Fund.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following two recommendations:

1. To ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

2. Establish a child protection system to combat violence and exploitation against children and encourage the Government to work with international partners to implement this recommendation.

We wish the delegation of Palau every success during this review.

Thank you, Madam Vice President