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**Republic of the Marshall Islands**

**STATEMENT by Mr. Samuel L. Lanwi Jr., Deputy Permanent Representative**

**39th Session, Universal Periodic Review**

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**Geneva**

**Samoa**

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Thank you, Madam President,

The Marshall Islands warmly welcomes the Delegation of Samoa and thanks them for the presentation of their third UPR report.

We congratulate the Delegation for the achievements in the implementation of various recommendations from its previous cycle, including the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016 and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 2019.

Likewise, we are encouraged by Samoa’s demonstrated commitment to reaching 100% renewable energy for the country in 2025 by achieving its intermediary goal of 60% renewable energy in 2018. Furthermore, as a fellow Pacific SIDS, the Marshall Islands welcome Samoa’s efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change and align itself with international commitments on the matter with the adoption of the Samoa Climate Change Policy 2020.

With the view to further improve the human rights situation in the country and in the spirit of constructive engagement, we offer the following recommendations:

1. Implement human rights based approaches in its environmental, climate change and disaster risk reduction policies, legislation and regulations allowing the comprehensive protection and enjoyment of human rights against the adverse impacts of climate change;
2. Take additional measures to improve the access to justice for persons with disabilities through the implementation of accommodation within the justice process; and
3. Intensify efforts to fully eradicate corporal punishment against children in educational setting.

We wish the Delegation all success during this third UPR cycle.

Kommol tata and I thank you.