**39th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**IRELAND**

**10 November 2021**

Statement by: Dr. Asim Ahmed

Ambassador | Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Offices’ in Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Madam President,

The Maldives welcomes the high-level delegation from Ireland to this third cycle review and thank them for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends Ireland on the amendments brought to the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act in 2021 which ensures that the principle of climate justice is accounted for by the Irish Government when developing carbon budgets, plans or strategies. We also welcome the 12 Sectoral Adaptation Plans which stress the importance of ensuring that climate adaptation protects marginalised and vulnerable groups by mainstreaming climate adaptation actions into policies and programmes.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives presents the following two recommendations to Ireland:

1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

2. Criminalize domestic violence while clearly defining domestic violence and other emerging forms of gender-based violence.

We wish Ireland a successful review.

Thank you, Madam President.