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

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**4 November 2021**

Statement by: Mr. Hassan Hussain Shihab   
Counsellor Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations Offices’ in Geneva

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Thank you, Madam President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high-level delegation of Papua New Guinea to this review. We express our appreciation for the submission of Papua New Guinea’s national report and engagement in the UPR process.

The Maldives commends Papua New Guinea for finalizing the National Action Plan against corruption, leading to the successful establishment of the Independent Commission against Corruption. We hope that the Commission is sufficiently funded and staffed to enable efficient investigations under the 2020 Whistle-blower Act and the 2019 Organic Law on the Independent Commission against Corruption Law.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives presents the following two recommendations to Papua New Guinea:

1. Develop a national strategy on out-of-school children, particularly in remote and rural communities, to ensure access to education.

2. Enhance greater participation of women in politics and decision making.

We wish Papua New Guinea a successful review.

Thank you, Madam President