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

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**9 November 2021**

Statement by: Ms. Hawla Ahmed Didi  
Deputy Permanent Representative 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 Trinidad and Tobago to this review and express our appreciation for the submission of the national report and engagement in the UPR process.

The Maldives commends the efforts by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to implement legislation to eradicate violence in order to protect human rights. In this regard, we note the passing of the 2021 Anti-Gang Act to curb the proliferation of gangs and violent crimes by criminalizing gang leadership, membership and gang-related activities.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives presents the following two recommendations to Trinidad and Tobago:

1. Reduce the gender wage gap by guaranteeing and enforcing the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in all sectors.

2. Address the root causes of the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and implement preventative strategies to combat HIV.

We wish Trinidad and Tobago a successful review.

Thank you, Madam President