**40th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**LITHUANIA**

**26 January 2022**

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

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the high-level delegation from the Republic of Lithuania to this third cycle review and thanks them for their presentation today.

The Maldives acknowledges the efforts made by the Government of Lithuania to advance human rights domestically and commends the progress made since the last UPR cycle, particularly the positive steps taken towards gender equality. We also welcome the policy measures undertaken to prevent domestic violence, human trafficking, integrate national minorities and migrants.

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

1. Strengthen the education system to ensure educational opportunities to all, including vulnerable groups.

2. Ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

We wish Lithuania a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President