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

**Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

**25 January 2022**

Statement by:

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 Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to this third cycle review and thank them for their presentation today.

The Maldives congratulates the government of Venezuela for the consultative approach taken in the development of their national report. We welcome the establishment of an official OHCHR presence in the country to provide technical assistance and to monitor the human rights situation in Venezuela.

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

1. To adopt a national action plan to address violence against women and to ensure that necessary resources are allocated to implement this plan.

2. To take necessary measures to guarantee equal access to social protection programmes.

We wish the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President