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

**Zimbabwe**

**26 January 2022**

Statement by:

Ms. Hawla Ahmed Didi

Deputy Permanent Representative

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Zimbabwe to this third cycle review and express our appreciation for the constructive engagement in this process.

The Maldives welcomes the enactment of the amended Education Act in 2020 which prohibits discrimination against age, disability, economic or social status. We also take positive note of the establishment of a climate smart agriculture programme that assists farmers to increase production, income and resilience to climate change, while simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following two recommendations:

1. Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
2. Ensure that people affected by natural disasters are provided access to adequate food, housing, health care and other basic and essential services.

We wish the delegation of Zimbabwe all the success during this review.

Thank you, Mr. President.