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

**South Sudan**

**31 January 2022**

Statement by:

Ms. Hawla Ahmed Didi

Deputy Permanent Representative of Maldives to the UN and other International Organisations at Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. Vice President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high-level delegation from South Sudan to this UPR review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives welcomes the decision by the Government of South Sudan to adopt a joint strategy and plan of action to accelerate the implementation of existing commitments under the 2018 Revitalised Peace Agreement. We hope that adequate resources will be allocated to implement this plan.

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

1. Continue its efforts towards peace and national reconciliation to improve the human rights situation in the country.

2. Create a conducive environment for free and fair elections by establishing an independent and impartial Elections Commission.

We wish the delegation of South Sudan every success during this review.

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

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