**41st Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Kingdom of Bahrain**

**7 November 2022**

Statement by:

H.E. Dr. Asim Ahmed

Ambassador | Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Offices’ in Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high-level delegation from the Kingdom of Bahrain to the fourth cycle Universal Periodic Review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the Kingdom of Bahrain for establishing a Ministry of Sustainable Development to incorporate sustainable development goals into all programmes and projects of the country. We also applaud the Government of Bahrain for adopting the National Human Rights Plan 2022–2026, which will strengthen the country’s human rights framework, and for enacting five new legislations related to human rights.

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

1. Intensify efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
2. Continue efforts to promote a human rights-based approach to disability.

We wish the Kingdom of Bahrain every success at this review.

Thank you, Mr. President.