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

**Finland**

**9 November 2022**

Remarks by:

H.E. Dr. Asim Ahmed

Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation from Finland to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the efforts by Finland to address climate change, environmental degradation, and the loss of biodiversity. We welcome the new Climate Change Act that aims to ensure that Finland achieves carbon neutrality by 2035.

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

1. Increase the availability of affordable mental health care services.

2. Allocate sufficient resources to effectively respond to gender-based violence and increase the number of shelters and crisis centres, especially to those in remote rural areas.

We wish Finland a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.