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

**Kingdom of the Netherlands**

**15 November 2022**

Statement by:

Ms. Fathika Fayaz

Second Secretary

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

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

The Maldives commends the Kingdom of the Netherlands for publishing the second Human Rights Action plan with the theme “accessibility of government services for all” in 2019. We would also like to highlight the commitments made by the Netherlands to become carbon neutral before 2050 and strengthen the Climate Act.

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

1. Increase efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.
2. Enhance measures to consider a bill on crimes of sexual violence.

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

Thank you, Mr. President.