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**Statement by India during the Interactive Dialogue in the 4th Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of The Bahamas in the 43rd Session of the UPR Working Group (1-12 May 2023) delivered by Mr. S. Senthil Kumar, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva, 3 May 2023**

Mr. President,

India thanks delegation of The Bahamas for presentation of its National Report.

2. We appreciate The Bahamas for the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the previous UPR cycle as well as the efforts made by the Government to promote and protect human rights, despite the complex challenges faced due to Hurricane Doriane and COVID-19 pandemic.

3. We welcome the measures taken by The Bahamas on climate change mitigation and adaptation, including the recently adopted legislation on the Disaster Risk Management.

4. In a spirit of constructive engagement, India recommends the following to The Bahamas:

i. Consider establishing the National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris principles through finalisation of draft 2017 legislation.

ii. Further strengthen measures for equal participation of women in public affairs.

iii. Take adequate measures to ensure quality education for all children, in particular girls and children with disabilities.

5. We wish delegation of The Bahamas all success in its review.

I thank you.