**43rd Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Republic of Botswana**

**3rd May 2023**

Statement 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 high-level delegation from the Republic of Botswana to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

Maldives commends Botswana for the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the previous review. We welcome the establishment of the National Gender Commission to implement the national policy on gender and the High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee to oversee the national response to gender-based violence.

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

1. Intensify efforts to harmonise the Children’s Act with the Convention of the Rights of the Child, in consultation with relevant stakeholders including civil society organisations.
2. Provide regular training to judicial, legal, and law enforcement officials on human rights.

We wish Botswana a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.