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

**Burundi**

**4 May 2023**

Statement by:

Hassan Hussain Shihab

Counsellor 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 Burundi to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the efforts made by Burundi to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, including by establishing the National Emergency Operations Centre to coordinate emergency relief operations. We also welcome the 30 percent quota for women in the Government, Parliament, and communal councils to ensure women’s participation in political life.

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

1. Invest in projects to mitigate and reduce deforestation and soil erosion to prevent the destruction of the environment.
2. Intensify efforts to improve access to prenatal and postnatal care, particularly in rural areas and for vulnerable populations, to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality.

We wish Burundi a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.