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

**Barbados**

**05 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 Barbados to this fourth cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the efforts made by Barbados to improve the human rights situation in the country, such as the work done towards strengthening Barbados' position with respect to the inclusion of women in decision-making positions. The Maldives further applauds the adoption of the ambitious National Energy Policy aimed to achieve 100 percent renewable energy and carbon neutrality by 2030.

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

1. Work towards incorporating the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment into the new Constitution.

2. Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

We wish our fellow Small Island Developing State Barbados, a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.