**2**9th **Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**15 - 26 January 2018, Geneva**

**Review of Romania**

**16 January 2018**

Statement by:

Her Excellency Dr Hala Hameed, Ambassador |

Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the delegation of Romania to this review in this Third Cycle of the UPR, and thanks the delegation for the comprehensive presentation today.

The Maldives commends Romania for the steps taken to strengthen judiciary. In this regard, we welcome the National Strategy for the Development of the Judiciary (2016-2020) and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2016-2020) which accords Independence of Justice as a priority. The Maldives is further encouraged by the efforts of the Romanian Government in promoting and protecting the rights of people with disabilities, and welcomes the National Strategy "A Barrier-free Society for People with Disabilities 2016-2020".

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following recommendations to Romania:

1. Continue to strengthen measures to implement legislations against domestic violence.
2. Continue to effectively implement the Government Strategy for the inclusion of Romanian citizens belonging to Roma minority 2015-2020.

We wish Romania every success at this review. Thank you, Mr. President.