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

**15 - 26 January 2018, Geneva**

**Review of Montenegro**

**22 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 Montenegro to this review of the UPR and thanks the delegation for their presentation.

We welcome Montenegro’s efforts to achieve gender equality and increase women participation in political decision-making roles through the 2015 Amendments to the Law on Gender Equality. The Maldives also commends the Government of Montenegro’s commitment to fighting corruption and depravity through the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Agency in 2016.

We are further encouraged by the adoption of the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection of Children from Violence (2017-2021) with the aim of ending violence against children in family environments.

The Maldives recommends that the Government of Montenegro:

1. Continue strengthening its efforts to improve the accessibility of quality education to students with disabilities who remain outside of the educational system.
2. Continue to improve measures against employment discrimination towards persons with disabilities through legislation.

We wish the delegation of Montenegro every success at this Review. Thank you, Mr. President.