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

**15 - 26 January 2018, Geneva**

**Review of United Arab Emirates**

**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 high level delegation of United Arab Emirates to this third cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends UAE for the steps taken to combat human trafficking in collaboration with multiple countries.

The Maldives is further encouraged by the Ministry of Educations’s strategy for the period 2017-2020 with the inclusion of highest international educational standards.

We would like to congratulate UAE for launching the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women (2015–2021); and welcomes the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood and the Strategic Plan for the Promotion of the Rights of Children with Disabilities for the period 2017–2021.

The Maldives wishes to present two recommendations to UAE:

1. Encourage to expedite on the enactment of the law on domestic abuse prevention.
2. Continue its efforts to develop a national plan for protecting and promoting human rights.

We wish United Arab Emirates every success at this Review. Thank you, Mr. President.