**30**th **Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**07 - 18 May 2018, Geneva**

**Review of Burkina Faso**

**07 May 2018**

Statement by:

Ms Aishath Shahula |

First Secretary, Permanent Misison of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the delegation of Burkina Faso to this third cycle review. We express our appreciation for today’s presentation and take positive note of the national report.

The Maldives notes the efforts made by the Government of Burkina Faso to improve its legal and institutional human rights framework. We are encouraged by the numerous legislative and constitutional measures taken to protect and promote the rights of women and ensure gender equality in political and public life. In this regard, we welcome the 2015 Act on the prevention, punishment and reparation of violence against women and girls and support for victims.

We further commend the 2017-2026 Public policy plan on the National Strategy for the Promotion and Protection of Young Girls “which aims to have by 2026, young girls who are effectively enjoying their rights, autonomous and fulfilled at the social, economic and political levels, who are fully involved in the development of Burkina Faso".

In a constructive spirit, the Maldives recommends that the Burkina Faso:

1. Continue efforts to improve the participation of women in decision making process.
2. Ensure the enforcement of existing laws relating to child trafficking, child labour and the exploitation of children.

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