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

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**Uzbekistan**

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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 Uzbekistan to this third cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives is encouraged by Uzbekistan efforts to strengthen national human rights institutions and to bring them into line with the Paris Principles, by consolidating the legal status of the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman).

We further welcome the adoption of various national action plans and State programmes notably the National Action Plan to implement the recommendations issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Action Strategy on Five Priority Areas of the Country’s Development for 2017–2021.

The Maldives takes positive note of the measures taken to improve the support system for persons with disabilities including the introduction of the special equipment for persons with disabilities into the public transport services.

The Maldives presents the following recommendations to Uzbekistan:

1. Continue its effective efforts to further implement international labor standards in the country including via its established cooperation with ILO.
2. Encourage the effective implementation of the comprehensive national mechanism for the protection of vulnerable children.

We wish Uzbekistan every success at this Review. Thank you, Mr. President.