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

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**Review of Colombia**

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Statement by:

Ms Aishath Shahula |

First Secretary / Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the delegation ofColombiato this review. We express our appreciation for today’s presentation, and take positive note of the national report.

The Maldives welcomes the efforts by the Government of Colombia to work closely with civil society for the effective promotion and protection of human rights, including through its collaboraton with 9000 civil society organisations to produce a twenty year proposal for a comprehensive human rights policy.We also welcome the Government basing its national strategy upon this proposal.

The Maldives commends the Governement for signing the final agreement with the FARC-EP to end the half a century of armed conflict and build lasting peace.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives recommends that the Government of Colombia:

1. Continue efforts to enhance international, regional, and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit, and destination to prevent trafficking in persons through information exchange aimed at prosecuting traffickers;

We wish the delegation from Colombia every success at this review.Thank you, Mr. President.