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**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE**

**AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AT GENEVA**

**34th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**4-15 November 2019, Geneva**

**Review of Fiji**

**6 November 2019**

Statement by:

Dr Hala Hameed Permanent Representative

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high-level delegation of the Republic of Fiji to this third cycle review and thanks the delegation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends our fellow SIDS, Fiji, for all the efforts and measures taken to protect the rights of its people. In particular, we are encouraged by the Climate Reallocation of Communities Trust Fund Act and the Planned Relocation Guidelines aimed to ensure that all Fijians enjoy basic human rights and freedoms in the face of climate change and natural disasters.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives presents the following two recommendations to the Government of Fiji:

1. Continue efforts to strengthen measures to provide adequate resources and assistance to economically disadvantaged families and undertake structural changes in order to address child poverty.
2. Ensure economic empowerment of women who are relocated due to climate change through provision of necessary support and assistance to continue their work.

We wish Republic of Fiji every success at this Review. Thank you, Mr. President.