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

**AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AT GENEVA**

**35th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**20 -31 January 2020, Geneva**

**Review of Kiribati**

**28 January 2020**

Statement by:

Hawla Ahmed Didi, Deputy Permanent Representative

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives extends a warm welcome to the high-level delegation of Kiribati to this third cycle review and conveys appreciation for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the Government of Kiribati for its commitment in addressing the impacts of climate change, particularly its efforts to implement adaptation and mitigation projects. We also welcome the adoption of the Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Act of 2019. Furthermore, we commend the recent accession of Kiribati to the Convention Against Torture.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives presents the following two recommendations to Kiribati:

1. To develop and implement the Child Labour Policy to protect children against exploitation.

2. To develop an implementation plan to effectively implement the Kiribati National Disability Policy.

We wish our fellow Small Island Developing State, Kiribati every success at this review.

Thank you, Mr. President.