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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 Kenya**

**23 January 2020**

Statement by:

Hawla Ahmed Didi, Deputy Permanent Representative

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Madam President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the high level delegation from Kenya led by ….. to this third cycle review.

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

1. Take measures to eradicate female genital mutilation, including through increased awareness-raising among all groups;
2. Strengthen its efforts to address gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment in the workplace

The Maldives welcomes the Government’s efforts to strengthen legislation especially to repeal the Persons with Disability Act 2003 in addition to the Persons with Disability Bill, 2018, the 1989 Mental Health Act and the Mental Health Amendment Bill, 2018. We also note the efforts to strengthen the justice system; by launching the “Judiciary blueprint, Sustaining Judiciary Transformation: an agenda for service delivery (2017-2021)” to promote effectiveness and efficiency in the administration of justice, access to justice and judicial performance.

We wish the delegation of Kenya every success at this review.

Thank you, Madam President.