**The 36th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Maldives**

**4 November 2020**

**Statement by Latvia**

Thank you Madam President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of Maldives to the UPR Working Group and thanks for presenting its national report.

We note the measures taken by the Government since the previous review, in particular the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedures of the HRC, and encourage further efforts in fulfilling its human rights obligations and commitments.

Latvia would like to **recommend** to the Government of Maldives:

* To criminalise marital rape;
* To take all necessary measures to combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence both in law and in practice;
* To consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol of the ICCPR.

Latvia would also like to **reiterate the following recommendation from the previous UPR cycle**:

* To retain the moratorium on the death penalty in all circumstances, in particular for juvenile offenders, and work towards the complete abolition of death penalty.

Latvia wishes to the delegation of Maldives success in the review.

I thank you.