**36th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Principality of Andorra**

**05 November 2020**

Statement by:

Deputy Permanent Representative – Hawla Didi

Thank you, Mr. Vice President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the delegation from the Principality of Andorra to this third cycle review and thanks them for their presentation today.

The Maldives commends the progress made by Andorra to broaden the mandate of the Ombudsman Office to include handling complaints of discrimination, as well as informing and advising children on their rights and freedoms under the CRC. We also welcome steps taken by Andorra in 2019, to adopt the strategic plan for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In constructive spirit, the Maldives makes the following recommendations to the Andorran authorities;

1. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in order to ensure regular and preventive monitoring by a National Preventive Mechanism of all places where people are deprived of their liberties.

2. Adopt special legislative measures aimed at advancing women in political life to encourage the equal participation of both men and women in the public life.

We wish Andorra every success with this UPR cycle. Thank you, Mr. Vice President