

Statement by
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Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Maldives to the UN and other
International Organisations at Geneva
Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to
Development
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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives thanks the Special Rapporteur for the comprehensive report, which offers important insights on operationalising the right to development.

Mr. President,

The Maldives reaffirms its commitment to the promotion and realisation of the right to development in accordance with international human rights standards and norms. We pledge our support to the establishment of the International Covenant on the Right to Development. We have made substantial progress in areas including education, healthcare, social protection, gender equality and women's empowerment. Furthermore, environmental sustainability, a cornerstone of our development strategy, is recognized as key in promoting the well-being of our people.

Mr. President,

The Maldives concurs with the Special Rapporteur that climate change is a great “disrupter” to the realization of the right to development. As a Small Island Developing State, we are keenly aware of the impact of climate change on the

right to development and the mutual dependency between climate action and sustainable development. To realize our right to development, it is imperative that we address the triple crises of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss.

Mr. President

The Maldives calls for enhanced multilateral cooperation to operationalise the right to development. We believe that the attainment of this right is not only feasible but also crucial for all people. Let us work towards creating a world where everyone can equally enjoy the benefits of development.

In conclusion, I would like to ask the Special Rapporteur, what measures can be taken to ensure that international trade and economic strategies prioritizes the right to development and do not perpetuate inequalities between nations?

I thank you.