



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

**30th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council
14 September – 2 October 2015, Geneva**

**Item 10: Technical assistance and capacity-building - General Debate
1 October 2015**

**Statement by Ms. Rishfa Rasheed,
Counselor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives
to the United Nations Offices at Geneva**

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Thank you Mr. President,

The Maldives commends the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for its tireless efforts in providing technical assistance and capacity-building to States in need. The Maldives appreciates your firm commitment and strongly encourage the Office to continue working with equal dedication.

Mr. President

It is of crucial importance to bridge the existing gap between States' legal obligations and concrete actions aiming at assuring the full enjoyment of human rights of its citizens. In this context the Maldives believes that in the modern, globalized world, international cooperation leading to improvement of institutional and technical capacities of individual States is necessary for the effective promotion and protection of human rights on the global level.

This being said, the Maldives reminds all that external aid must be based on the principles of cooperation and genuine dialogue with concerned States. It is imperative that any consultations, advisory services, technical assistance or capacity-building activities are undertaken with the explicit consent of the interested party, and take into account specific local conditions and particularities.

Mr. President,

The Maldives takes note of the visit of the High Commissioner to Central African Republic, and his



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findings. The Maldives also appreciates the efforts of the OHCHR in Sudan and South Sudan, and urge the countries to engage with the Office. The Maldives also takes into consideration the situation of human rights in Yemen, and call on the OHCHR to provide the necessary technical assistance, as necessary, and also urge the international community to continue its financial support to ensure that the Government can strengthen its efforts to address the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country.

Mr. President,

While recognizing that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights lies with States, the Maldives welcomes involvement of UN agencies in activities effectively fostering implementation of human rights in countries requiring such assistance. The Maldives is of the opinion that in order to achieve the best results, national efforts should be complimented with genuine international programs designed to accommodate each state's particular needs. The Maldives will continue its 'engagement-first' policy and in this regard, this year alone has facilitated visits of OHCHR, Commonwealth, ICRC, as well as civil society organisations such as Amnesty International to name a few. The Maldives will maintain dialogue with its international partners, which offer their sincere assistance towards the good of the people of the Maldives.

To conclude, recognizing that further consolidation of technical cooperation and the provision of requested assistance is vital for the concerned States' development in the field of human rights and beyond, the Maldives encourages States in need to not hesitate requesting the technical support from either the Office of the High Commissioner or any other relevant UN agency.

Thank you Mr. President.