



UPR Working Group 4th Session: Mauritius

Thank you Mr. President.

The Maldives delegation would like to congratulate Mauritius on its successful universal periodic review and on its final report.

As well being island neighbours in the Indian Ocean, Mauritius and the Maldives have many other characteristics in common. Both are young countries that are in the process of building fair, just and prosperous societies founded upon a strong human rights framework. ~~And both, as~~ ^a Small Island States, ^{Mauritius is} ~~are~~ vulnerable to external economic and environmental shocks, and face important human, financial and technical resource constraints.

Despite these challenges, Mauritius has achieved an enormous amount since its Independence in 1968, including in the field of human rights. It is party to six of the major international human rights instruments, together with a number of related optional protocols. What it more, Mauritius has been active in integrating the principles contained in these treaties into national laws, practices and procedures; a point evidenced by, for example, the entry into force of the Protection of Human Rights Act, the Sex Discrimination Act and the Children Protection Act. The Maldives also commends the establishment of strong independent institutions including a national human rights commission, and an anti-corruption commission; and the active participation of Mauritian nationals in international human rights bodies.



Notwithstanding these steps and in common will all States, important challenges remain such as, for example, improving detention conditions and ensuring timely access to justice. However, with the extremely proactive and progressive policies of Mauritius, it is clear that the legal framework for tackling such challenges is in place.

~~With all this in mind~~, the Maldives looks forward to Mauritius' next review and to hearing about progress made towards its recommendations.

Thank you Mr. President.

* The Maldives takes note that Mauritius has accepted 44 of the recommendations that were made during their UPR and we also welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on armed conflict, after its review.

Accepted 44
⊗ OP CRC - armed conflict
ratified after UPR