



Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives delegation would like to thank the High Commissioner for her statement and congratulate her on a successful first year in Office.

The Maldives would like to focus on three issues mentioned in your statement.

First, as we mentioned in response to your report during the 11th Session, the Maldives welcomes your decision to prioritise the theme of migration and human rights over the coming years. In this regard, we urge you to include the issues of climate-induced displacement and statelessness in your work in this area. I am pleased to inform the High Commissioner that the Maldives will be speaking on this issue during a side-event to be held this Wednesday.

Second, the Maldives shares the High Commissioner's belief in the importance of the upcoming review of the work and methods of the Council as per GA resolution 60/251. The Maldives intends to participate fully in that review but at the outset we would like to respectfully suggest that the review include an assessment of how the Council can be made more accessible to smaller delegations, including UN members that do not yet have a mission in Geneva.



Third, the Maldives also concurs on the importance of including an analysis of the effectiveness of the UPR process. We believe that the UPR has shown itself to be a useful process thus-far. However, the successful outcome of the UPR will depend on whether the periodic review leads to real implementation and real improvements in the on-the-ground enjoyment of human rights. In this regard, the Maldives is pleased to inform the High Commissioner that following a recent OHCHR-organised UPR seminar in the Maldives, the Government last week confirmed the establishment of a permanent UPR Standing Committee, inclusive of NGOs, which will be responsible both for reporting to the Council *and* for implementing the outcome recommendations.

Thank you Mr. President.