



UPR 8th Session

**Guyana**

The Maldives would like to welcome the distinguished delegation from Guyana, a fellow member of the Alliance of Small Island States, to this 8th session of the UPR and would like to take this opportunity to wish them a successful UPR session.

Mr. President,

The Maldives delegation commends Guyana for its commitment to equality and non-discrimination. The Maldives also welcomes the appointment and establishment of five human rights commissions, including the Right of the Child Commission and the Women and Gender Equality commission. The importance given by the Government of Guyana to rights of the child is evident by the passing of numerous laws over the last four years, which are aimed at protecting the rights of children in specific areas such as education, health care and social services.

While noting the positive steps Guyana has taken to advance the protection of women and children, Maldives recommends that Guyana takes further steps in this direction by ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (OP-CEDAW) as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (OP-CRC-SC).

Thank you.