



22

UPR 9th Session

Marshall Islands

Thank you Mr. President.

The Maldives would like to welcome the distinguished delegation from the Marshall Islands, a fellow member of the Alliance of Small Island States, to this 9th session of the UPR and would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them for their comprehensive and inclusive national report.

Mr. President,

The adverse effects of climate change, particularly sea level rise, are a concern for human rights. Not only is the risk of losing human lives at stake, but also livelihoods in relation to food security, education, sanitation, housing, and health, among other things. As a fellow small island state that faces similar challenges and vulnerabilities due to the impact of climate change, the Maldives understands the severe technical and financial capacity constraints faced by the Marshall Islands, and the consequences that it has on the promotion and protection of human rights. With this in mind, the Maldives would like to make the following comments and recommendations:

1) We congratulate the government of the Marshall Islands for its efforts in policy on renewable energy and sustainable development. We congratulate the government for



its commitment towards integrating the protection of human rights in its national policies to combat climate change. The Maldives would like to recommend Marshall Islands to take a rights-based approach to adaptation. The Marshall Islands should call on the major greenhouse gas emitting States to protect human rights in Marshall Islands by seriously mitigating emissions. It should call on major emitters to share the responsibility for adaption to and mitigation of climate change, relative to their share of historic and current emissions.

2) The Maldives would like to recommend that the Marshall Islands continue with its work to fill the gaps in legislation and national policies that prevent the full implementation of CEDAW, and to accede to the core international human rights instruments, namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The Maldives would like to recommend the Marshall Islands to make a standing invitation to Special Procedures.

3) Finally, the Maldives would like to highlight the importance of working with the international community to explore the benefit of opening a mission in Geneva.

I Thank you.