



H. E. Ms. Imthiham  
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### Statement - Nauru

Thank you Mr. President,

The Maldives would like to warmly welcome the delegation of Nauru, a fellow member of the Alliance of Small Island States, to this 10<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR working group. We would also like to congratulate Nauru on the high quality of its national report and on the extensive consultation process that lay behind it. Both are significant achievements for a Small Island Developing State with limited resources. We would also like to thank the delegation for the replies provided to our Advance Questions.

Mr. President,

Nauru, like the Maldives, faces enormous challenges in fully promoting and protecting human rights because of its smallness and because of its capacity constraints. It is important for this working group to understand and appreciate this fact as we conduct the review.

It is clear from the 3 reports before us that, despite these constraints, Nauru is making significant efforts in the field of human rights, and has also secured some impressive achievements. That said, as with all countries, there is room for improvement, and with this in mind, the Maldives would like to make the following recommendations:

1. We recommend that Nauru, with assistance from OHCHR, move to speedily accede to all those human rights conventions to which it is currently a signatory. Acceding to the conventions and working with the human rights Treaty Bodies will help Nauru to gradually bring its laws and practices into line with international law.
2. In order to help overcome the problem of the heavy burden of treaty reporting, the Maldives recommends that Nauru work with the OHCHR to develop a Common Core Document which, in conjunction with treaty-specific Lists of Issues, will help to streamline treaty reporting.
3. We recommend that Nauru reduce the voting age from 20 years to 18 years.
4. We recommend that Nauru extend a Standing Invitation to UN human rights Special Procedures so that they can visit the country and assist the government with its human rights reforms.
5. We recommend that the Government, with support from the international community, draft legislative Bills on domestic violence, and on child abuse.
6. We recommend that Nauru be assisted with its efforts to expand and strengthen its legal and judicial sectors.
7. We recommend that Nauru continues to efforts, through the UNFCC and other fora, to remind the international community, especially developed countries and other major



emitting States, of their obligations to protect and promote human rights in Nauru by reducing greenhouse gas emissions to safe-levels. The Maldives agrees fully with the assertion by JS4 in the stakeholder report that major emitting nations hold a concurrent responsibility with the government of Nauru to prevent climate change from undermining human rights.

8. We recommend that Nauru consider opening, with international donor support, a small Permanent Mission in Geneva, using facilities provided by the newly-opened Commonwealth Small States Office.