



H.E. Ms. Imthiham
Adam
(15)

Statement – Saint Kitts & Nevis

Thank you Mr. President,

The Maldives would like to warmly welcome the delegation of Saint Kitts & Nevis, a fellow member of the Alliance of Small Island States, to this 10th session of the UPR working group. We would also like to congratulate Saint Kitts & Nevis 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.

Mr. President,

Saint Kitts & Nevis, like the Maldives, faces enormous challenges in fully promoting and protecting human rights because of its small size and because of its capacity constraints. It is important for this working group to understand and appreciate this fact as we conduct the review. And thus the Maldives welcomes this opportunity to hold a dialogue with them and to exchange ideas and recommendations for improvement.

With this in mind, the Maldives would like to make the following recommendations:

1. To enhance and consolidate Saint Kitts and Nevis's efforts to promote and protect human rights, Maldives recommends the creation of a National Human Rights Institution.
2. We recommend that Saint Kitts & Nevis, with assistance from OHCHR, move to speed up the signing and ratification of International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Convention Against Torture and its Optional Protocol and Convention Against the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
3. In order to help overcome the problem of the heavy burden of treaty reporting, the Maldives recommends that Saint Kitts & Nevis 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.
4. We recommend that Saint Kitts & Nevis 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 Saint Kitts & Nevis continues its efforts, through the UNFCCC 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 Saint Kitts & Nevis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



7. We recommend that Saint Kitts & Nevis consider opening a small Permanent Mission in Geneva, using facilities provided by the newly-opened Commonwealth Small States Office.