



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

**17th Session of Universal Periodic Review Working Group
Geneva, 21 October – 01 November 2013**

**Review of Senegal
21 October 2013**

**Statement by Ms. Rishfa Rasheed, First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations Offices in Geneva**

Thank you Mr. President

As a fellow member of OIC, the Maldives would like to welcome the distinguished delegation of Senegal to the Working Group on the UPR. The Maldives as a partner country appreciates the constructive and active role of Senegal at the Council.

The Maldives would like to recommend the following:

First, it encourages Senegal to bring its Criminal Code fully in line with the Convention against Torture, particularly to include acts aimed at obtaining information from, punishing, intimidating or coercing a third person, and explicitly prohibit the use as evidence of any statement made under duress or as a result of torture.

Second, we recommend that Senegal enact relevant legislation to promote and protect the rights of children in all settings.

And finally, to ensure the swift implementation of the strategic plan concerning the education and protection of children who are not in school and implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in order to stop the practice of child beggars.

Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the adoption of a number of important legislations by Senegal aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights since its first review in 2008. The

Maldives would also like to commend Senegal on its extensive work in the area of the eradication of FGM.

The Maldives commends measures taken by Senegal regarding child beggars, including the strategic plan (2008–2013) to educate and protect child beggars and children who do not attend school. However, we remain concerned that this issue is still reported as prevalent, and that begging by certain groups of children cannot be criminalized as it does not constitute an act of begging under the Penal Code. In this respect, we urge the Government to take the necessary measures to harmonize the national legislation so as to guarantee that the use of children for economic exploitation can be criminalized under section 245 of the Penal Code and under Act No. 2005-06.

We wish the delegation of Senegal all the success in its review.

Thank You Mr. President.