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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 Nigeria  
22 October 2013**

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

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Thank you Madam President.

The Maldives would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Nigeria, a fellow member of the OIC.

My delegation would like to commend Nigeria for its positive commitment with the Universal Periodic Review process, and welcomes the various efforts and policies the Nigerian government has accepted to improve the human rights situation on its territory since its first review.

The Maldives would like to recommend the following:

- To strengthen laws and policies for effective implementation to end violence against children, to ensure the full implementation of the 2003 Child Rights Act
- To end domestic and sexual violence against women and girls, by enacting laws and creating awareness in communities to end the social stigmatisation relating to it
- To monitor the environmental impact of the oil industry on human rights in the Niger Delta, taking in the relevant and suitable measures.

Madam President,

The Maldives would also like to note the efforts of Nigerian Government to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of the children. The Maldives is also pleased with the efforts to promote women entrepreneurships in the country.

We wish the delegation of Nigeria all the success in this review.

I thank you Madam. President.