



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

**19th Session of Universal Periodic Review Working Group
Geneva, 28 April – 09 May 2014**

Review of Costa Rica 5th May 2014

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

Check Against Delivery

Thank you Mr. President,

The Republic of the Maldives extends a warm welcome to the distinguished delegation of Costa Rica to the second cycle of the UPR.

The Maldives is pleased to see that the government of Costa Rica has made substantive progress in the field of human rights since its last review.

The Maldives applauds the establishment of an Inter-Institutional commission for the follow-up and the implementation of international human rights obligations by Costa Rica and take notes of its multi-stakeholder approach, which the Maldives believes has helped Costa Rica in effectively complying with its International human rights obligations.

Mr. President,

The Maldives is happy to note that Costa Rica has adopted several important legislations since its last review, particularly the Act on trafficking and related activities and the Act on the abolition of physical punishment and any other form of abuse or degrading treatment of children and adolescents. However, the Maldives believes that much remains to be done to establish a culture of tolerance, awareness and respects towards diversity.

Hence, the Maldives would like to recommend that Costa Rica strengthen its domestic mechanisms in that effect, especially towards eliminating acts of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

Mr. President,

The Maldives highly appreciates the engagement of Costa Rica to mainstream environmental rights as a human rights obligation as recommended by our delegation during the first cycle. The Maldives greatly value the strong cooperation of our two governments on this issue and would like to encourage Costa Rica to continue its efforts to protect human rights and the environment at the national and international level.

The Maldives wishes all the success to the delegation of Costa Rica for this review.

I thank you Mr. President.