



43

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

**22nd Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review
Geneva, 4 – 15 May 2015**

Review of Croatia, 12 May 2015

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

Check Against Delivery

Thank you Mr. President

The Maldives welcomes the distinguished delegation of Croatia, led by First Deputy Prime Minister, and express appreciation for its national report as well as for taking part in the Universal Periodic Review process.

The Maldives would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Reinforce its efforts to protect children, especially those in marginalized and disadvantaged situations.
2. Take steps to ensure adequate support and access to healthcare facilities, by those in rural areas

The Maldives welcome the entry into force of the Act on the Ombudsman in 2011. We further welcome the amendment to the Social Welfare Act of 2014, as well as the newly adopted Family Act in 2014.

As longtime proponents of education, the Maldives supports Croatia's National Committee for Education on Human Rights and Democratic Citizenship which has secured the implementation of education at all levels and appreciate the efforts to provide inclusive education for children with disabilities.

The Maldives takes positive note of Croatia's achievement in addressing the welfare of children. The Maldives encourages the Government of Croatia to put in place the appropriate mechanisms to ensure the sufficient coordination between different government bodies dealing with the welfare of children.

We wish the Government of Croatia success in this review.

Thank you, Mr. President.