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

Review of Ireland
25th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review
11 May 2016, Geneva

Statement by:

Mr. Jeffrey Salim Waheed,

Minister, Deputy Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives extends a warm welcome to the high level delegation from Ireland to this review, led by Her Excellency Ms Frances Fitzgerald, Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland. The Maldives expresses its appreciation for today's presentation, and takes note of the national report, especially the sections noting the implementation of the recommendations Ireland received during its first cycle.

My delegation commends Ireland's adoption of recent legislation guaranteeing fundamental human rights to those within its jurisdiction, such as the Equality Act of 2015. We would also like to take particular note of issuance of a National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking.

Keeping in mind the context of the challenges that face Ireland often differ from much of the developing world, the Maldives would like to make these two recommendations:

1. That Ireland take steps to move towards increased renewable energy production, in-line with its pledges on Climate Action; and
2. Continue efforts to finalize and then adopt a Domestic Violence Act.

Finally, the Maldives commends the measures taken by Ireland regarding to extension of the Early Childhood Care Education (ECCE) programme to provide free pre-school education.

The Maldives wishes the delegation of Ireland all the success during this review.

Thank you Mr. President.