



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

**25th Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review
2 – 13 May 2016, Geneva**

**Review of Thailand
11 May 2016**

**Statement by Her Excellency Dr Hala Hameed, Ambassador /
Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives welcomes the delegation from Thailand to this review.

We express our appreciation for today's presentation, and take positive note of the national report, and implementation of the recommendations Thailand received during its first cycle. We also appreciate the submission of the mid-term report.

The Maldives welcome Thailand's efforts to combat violence against women and adoption of the Gender Equality Act 2015 as a significant step towards strengthening human rights protection in the country. We also welcome the target of granting of legal status to about 300,000 persons in the country.

The Maldives would like to make the following recommendations:

- 1) Ensure inclusive and free primary education for all children, including those with disabilities
- 2) Monitor enforcement of environmental legislation to protect the rights of local communities and prevent environmental degradation
- 3) Take concrete measures to combat child sex tourism

We appreciate the measures taken by Thailand to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, empower women and promote youth development, through the National Children and Youth Development Plan (2012 – 2016). The Maldives also encourages the Government to implement the third National Human Rights Action Plan (2014-2018)

To conclude, we wish Thailand success during this review.

Thank you Mr. President.