

Statement by
Mr. Hassan Hussain Shihab
Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Maldives to the United Nations and other International Organisations at Geneva
Item 6: General Debate
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Thank you, Mr. President,

The UPR as a peer review mechanism has evolved to become a hallmark of multilateralism in the promotion of human rights. We value the UPR process, where all countries are equally assessed without distinction. We firmly believe that the UPR has contributed to improving the human rights situations by enabling States to better fulfil their human rights obligations through continuous dialogue, sharing of best practices and enhanced cooperation in the field of human rights.

The government of President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih remains committed to implement policies towards strengthening democratic governance, promoting human rights and combating climate change. Towards this end, we accepted 187 recommendations and partially accepted 5 recommendations received at the third cycle review of the Maldives in November 2020. Following the review, the President established the National Mechanism for the Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up, which has been important in streamlining the implementation of accepted recommendations and timely follow up.

Mr. President,

As a Small Island Developing State, the Maldives would like to emphasise the importance of continuing the hybrid modalities during the review process, to facilitate inclusive and cost-effective participation by relevant authorities at the national level, and enhancing the ownership of commitments made during the review process. We would also like to highlight the importance of receiving technical assistance and capacity building support at all stages of the UPR process.

In this regard, the Maldives appreciates the cooperation and assistance extended by the OHCHR and the UPR Secretariat to all States in the UPR process and its follow up. We look forward to strengthening our collaboration with OHCHR and the UPR Secretariat, to advance our efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights, in accordance with relevant General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions.

I thank you.