

Statement by

Ms. Shifaya Ibrahim

Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Maldives to the United Nations and other International Organisations at Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President,

As we commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 30th Anniversary of Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action this year, we reaffirm our commitment to the values of human rights based on universality, interdependency, indivisibility, and inter-relatedness. The Maldives believes in the importance of upholding these values for the full realization and enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to development.

Mr. President,

The Maldives also recognises the link between the equal protection and fulfillment of fundamental rights with the establishment of peace, security, and sustainable development. In this regard, the Government of Maldives has adopted a rights-based approach towards the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Strategic Action Plan (2019-2023) which serves as the central policy framework of the current administration, is guided by the core principles of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

Mr. President,

The Maldives stands ready to engage constructively with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms to further enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, and uphold international human rights law both in the domestic and international context. We note the crucial role played by the Council in advancing the universal protection of human rights to guarantee dignity, equality and freedom for all.

Before concluding, let me re-iterate the strengthened resolve of the Maldives to realize the shared vision of inalienable human rights enshrined in the UDHR and VDPA, as we strive for a world where no one is left behind.

I thank you.