



**Statement by Ambassador Iruthisham Adam, Permanent Representative of the
Maldives to the United Nations**

UPR of Trinidad and Tobago, 5 October 2011

Thankyou Madame President

The Maldives would like to warmly welcome the distinguished delegation of Trinidad and Tobago to this 12th session of the UPR working group.

As a fellow small island developing state the Maldives appreciates the detailed National report of Trinidad and Tobago. The Maldives would also like to commend Trinidad and Tobago for its achievements as a small country. In this regard, the Maldives would like to highlight the smooth functioning of its liberal democracy rooted on the rule of law and justice. The Maldives is further impressed with the high rate of economic growth, which contributes tremendously to national developmental priorities including the alleviation of poverty. These are noteworthy achievements for a small State.

Madame President,

That said, as with all countries, the Maldives believes there is room for improvement. The Maldives, thus, would like to note the strides made in the advancement of women and in the protection of the rights of the child as two important vulnerable groups within the society. On this note, my Delegation would like to inquire from the visiting Delegation, what measures does it consider implementing to strengthen the safe guards protecting young women, vis-a-vis, to prevent them falling victim to teen pregnancies. Further on this, appreciating the steps taken by the country in promoting the security of women, the Maldives would like to hear the



I thankyou Madame President