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

**22nd Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review
Geneva, 4 – 15 May 2015**

Review of United States of America, 11 May 2015

**Statement by Ms. Geela Ali, Minister / Chargé d' affaires, a.i.,
Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations Offices in Geneva**

Check Against Delivery

Thank you Mr. President

The Maldives would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Children
2. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
3. Take concrete steps to include the Right to Education in the Constitution
4. Eliminate discrimination against women by introducing paid maternity leave and providing equal pay for women
5. Take concrete measures to combat racial discrimination in law enforcement, and in the administration of justice
6. Re-evaluate mechanisms at federal, state and tribal level, to address the disproportionate impact on immigrant women
7. Stop acts of torture by US Government officials, not only in its sovereign territory but also in foreign soil.
8. Address trafficking of persons, and in particular sexual exploitation of children that result from this trafficking
9. Immediately close the Guantanamo facility
10. Ensure federal legislation to prohibit environmental pollution and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to control climate change

The Maldives is concerned by the excessive amount of torture by law enforcement officials, especially in Guantanamo Bay, and other detention facilities. The Maldives is also concerned by the secret detention facilities that are a violation of the Convention Against Torture.

The Maldives remains concerned by the large number of gun-related deaths and injuries, which disproportionately affected members of racial and ethnic minorities, particularly African Americans. We also remain concerned by the loss of innocent lives, during drone attacks by the US Government in different parts of the world. The Maldives also urges the United States not to interfere in the internal affairs of other States, and respect the will of the people in other countries in electing their leaders.

We wish the delegation the best during this review.

Thank you Mr. President