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

**23rd Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review
2 - 13 November 2015, Geneva**

**Review of Federated States of Micronesia
2 November 2015**

**Statement by Ms. Rishfa Rasheed, Counsellor,
Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of fellow AOSIS member, the Federated States of Micronesia. We express our appreciation for its national report and constructive engagement in the Universal Periodic Review process.

The Maldives recommends the Federated States of Micronesia to:

- 1) Speed up the finalization and implementation of the National Gender Policy
- 2) Combat malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies by ensuring the right to adequate and healthy food

The Maldives commends Micronesia for enacting the Trafficking in Persons Act (2012), and takes positive note of the different policies identified by the State towards its development. The Maldives is further pleased to note that the State has made significant progress in reducing infant and under-5 mortality.

As longtime proponents of education, the Maldives takes positive note of the strategic plan for improving education in the country, and expresses hope that the Federation and States would make efforts to improve the quality of education and resources available.

To conclude, the Maldives recognises the challenges faced by the country as a Small Island Developing State, and especially related to climate change, and urges the State to seek technical support and best practices from the United Nations and international community, towards the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

We wish the delegation success in this review.

Thank you Mr. President