



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the  
**36<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Maldives**

*Geneva, 4 November 2020*

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Madam President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Maldives for their presentation today and notes with appreciation Maldives' engagement with the UPR mechanism.

Slovenia welcomes the steps taken to advance women's rights in Maldives and lifting of certain reservations on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). We further express our support for the ratification of the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and appointment of first ever Child Rights Ombudsperson.

Slovenia, however, remains concerned about the staggering implementation of the legislation, concerning levels of impunity of the perpetrators of gender-based violence and sexual assault.

Slovenia would like to recommend to Maldives to:

- provide age- and developmentally-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education and provide sexual and reproductive health information to adolescents and young people;
- and institutionalize comprehensive inter-sectoral prevention, reporting and response mechanisms for gender-based violence and provide additional financing and strengthen social services, shelters and protection mechanisms for survivors of gender-based violence.

Thank you.