

## Universal Periodic Review Second Cycle - Maldives Stakeholders' Submission

Joint Submission by:  
**Maldivian Democracy Network (MDN)\***  
**Voice of Women (VoW)\*\***  
**DhiYouth Movement (DYM)\*\*\***



Submitted on 15 June 2014

*\* The Maldivian Democracy Network (MDN), formed in 2006 is a local NGO that has been working towards achieving human rights and promoting democratic good governance in the country. MDN participated in the first cycle of the UPR process for the Maldives where a stakeholder report was submitted by a joint group of NGOs, and MDN welcomes the conclusions and recommendations made at the review.*

*\*\* Founded in 2009 and was officially registered in 2011, Voice of Women (VoW) is an umbrella non-governmental organization for women in the Maldives providing assistance to existing women's NGOs in the remote islands via development of network as well as opportunities for mutual cooperation. Voice of Women (VoW) aims to bring an end to this culture by addressing gender injustice, gender equality, gender equity, violence against women, women's empowerment and involvement in development including economic, social and political dimensions.*

*\*\*\*DhiYouth Movement is a local youth-led NGO working to promote youth rights and involvement in social issues. DhiYouth Movements works on a diverse range of issues to encourage youth participation at all levels and as such prioritizes on empowering young people through various awareness campaigns and programs. DhiYouth Movement was founded in 2011 officially registered on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012.*

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1. This submission seeks to explore the measures that the Maldives intend to take on matters that have not progressed since the last review, and highlight new developments since the review.
2. The following sections of the report will highlight areas of concern that has developed over the reporting period from 2010 to date. The report will look at human rights issues in relation to international obligations and domestic legislation.

### **Domestic Concerns**

3. This joint submission will focus on the following areas in the context of the Maldives:
  1. The Death Penalty
  2. Justice
  3. Migrant Workers
  4. Women's Rights
  5. Torture and Police Brutality

### **THE DEATH PENALTY**

#### **International Obligations**

4. The Maldives rejected the recommendations to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR that prohibits the death penalty in all circumstances.

#### **Constitutional and Legislative Framework**

5. The Article 21 of the Constitution of Maldives assures the right to life of every person, subject to Article 16 which allows for legislation that can limit this right.
6. The Clemency Act (law number 2/2010) does not provide space for clemency of anyone sentenced the death sentence.
7. The death sentence has been prescribed in the Maldives Penal Code (currently in force) since 1968<sup>1</sup>. It is also prescribed in the new Penal Code which will come into force on the 14<sup>th</sup> April

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<sup>1</sup> Law number 1/66, Maldivian Penal Code, Chapter 3, section 88(d)

2015. The only difference in the prescription of the death sentence in the new Penal Code is that it requires practical certainty in sentencing rather than the current requirement of being beyond reasonable doubt. The government on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014 adopted regulations on implementing the Death Penalty further substantiating their stance on it. There have been calls to repeal the death penalty by the UN Human rights office<sup>2</sup>, however, the regulation on executing the death penalty has been enforced by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

8. There was no public consultation regarding implementing the death penalty.
9. The regulation on the implementation of the death sentence have not been reviewed for compliance with the Constitution. Questions have been raised by Islamic groups about whether the death sentence can be carried out with a lethal injection as prescribed in the regulation<sup>3</sup>. The regulation state that the convicted may be executed by lethal injection providing that the Supreme Court upholds the death sentence, and if all heirs of the victim desire *qisaas* - the heirs right to ask for the murderer's death.

### Concerns

10. The regulation has not been reviewed for compliance with international human rights law and best practices. The regulation clearly contradicts with the CRC by prescribing a deferred sentence on minors, whereby a child sentenced to death is prescribed to be killed upon reaching the age of 18 years. It is similarly reflected in the current and draft Penal Codes. The regulation mandates a process of under 30 days in which the President has to order the killing, providing little or no avenue for appeal or reconsideration. The draft Penal Code does allow an appeal process for the death sentence, and the sentence can only be carried out following the final verdict by the Supreme Court. It is of grave concern that persons facing the sentence before the enactment of the new Penal Code will not receive the appeal process.
11. So far the death sentence has only been passed for the offense of murder even though the current Penal Code has prescription for the death sentence for other offenses. The last judicial execution in the country was in 1952 and a moratorium on the death penalty has been practiced since then. Twenty people have since been served the death sentence, none of which have been implemented. One such case was overturned by the High Court<sup>4</sup>.
12. Section 29 of the current Penal Code allows for the death sentence to be passed for offenses against the State. Although this punishment has never been awarded, the capacity of the Maldivian judiciary on this matter is questionable. The judiciary has been reported as

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<sup>2</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/maldives-should-repeal-the-death-penalty-un-human-rights-office-83772>

<sup>3</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/islamic-justice-or-state-sponsored-murder-83974>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.haveeru.com.mv/news/54607>

“politicised” and “a regular doer of injustice” international experts<sup>5</sup>. Analysis of the academic background of judges in the Maldives show that it is below the tenth grade in most judges<sup>6</sup>. Thus, it is feared that the application of death penalty may not be removed from bias, and innocent lives may be lost with the implementation of the sentence<sup>7</sup>.

### **Recommendations**

- a) *That the government of Maldives revoke the Regulation on the Implementation of the Death Penalty and revert to the long-held moratorium on the death sentence in Maldives.*

### **RIGHTS OF THE MIGRANT WORKER**

#### **International Obligations**

13. The Maldives has ratified six core conventions of the ILO in addition to the ICCPR and CEDAW.

#### **Constitutional and Legislative framework**

14. The Chapter of Rights of the Maldivian Constitution clearly prescribes for Maldives to ensure and protect the rights of all employees and workers. Further, it assures that every worker shall be employed in a safe environment and receive a remuneration worthy of their duties, in addition to sufficient time for rest and recreation. The Constitution prohibits forced labour and slavery.
15. Employment Act (law number 2/2008).
16. The Prevention of Human Trafficking Act came into force in December 2013 following international concern over the situation of trafficking in the Maldives, and the threat of impending migration to a tier 3 placement in the US State Department Trafficking in Persons Report.
17. The government also enforced the Regulation on Migrant Workers in the Maldives. The regulation ensures basic rights of the migrant worker in Maldives.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/comment-maldives-judiciary-unreformed-and-unrepentant-45492>

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.supremecourt.gov.mv/mediafolder/international\\_conference\\_of\\_jurists.pdf](http://www.supremecourt.gov.mv/mediafolder/international_conference_of_jurists.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/05/01/world/asia/maldives-death-penalty/>

## Concerns

18. There is an estimated 200,000 migrant workers living in Maldives<sup>8</sup>. While most of the workers are employed and reside in the capital city Male', a considerable portion of migrant workers are employed in agricultural islands, industrial islands and resort islands. The largest number of migrant workers are employed in manual labour such as construction, garbage disposal, janitorial services and farming. Close to 44,000 are undocumented migrants<sup>9</sup>. Most workers (migrants) face the problems of enforced labour, fraudulent recruitment, confiscated travel and identity documents, enforced sex labour, with-held wages and debt-bondage. They are also frequently refused food, and housed in extremely poor conditions. Diplomats have labeled Maldives to be enslaving migrant workers<sup>10</sup>. Those facing such problems are especially migrant workers from Bangladesh.
19. None of these migrant workers have the freedom to openly practice any religion but Islam.
20. Migrant workers, however, are free to practice their own religion in private. Most religions practiced by the migrants require attendance to their place of worship.

## Recommendations

- b) *That the government of Maldives make an inventory of the human rights situation of all migrant workers in the country in the form of a comprehensive study, and take necessary steps and / or action against perpetrators for mistreatment and denial of fundamental rights to these migrant workers, and ensure them redress and justice for their suffering with immediate effect;*
- c) *That the government of Maldives not delay any further the ratification of the ICRMW.*

## THE JUDICIARY

### International obligations

21. Maldives accepted the recommendation to further strengthen an independent judiciary and develop a professional code of conduct for judges. The Judicial Service Commission adopted a professional code of conduct for judges on 30 December 2009.

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<sup>8</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/transparency-maldives-highlights- plight-of-migrant-workers-on-may-day-83914>

<sup>9</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/government-plans-massive-operation-to-deport-undocumented-workers-83514>

<sup>10</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/maldives-enslaving-migrant-workers-by-withholding-passports-warns-indian-official-45646>

22. Maldives accepted the recommendation to provide human rights training for judges in order to enhance their current knowledge of human rights principles. No such training has been conducted to date.
23. Maldives accepted the recommendation to implement the United Nations Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary and the Role of Lawyers. The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Gabriela Knaul, noted that most of the legal practice in Maldives is contrary to these basic principles<sup>11</sup>.

### **Constitutional and legislative framework**

24. Article 157 of the Constitution prescribes the formation of a Judicial Service Commission (JSC), which is mandated by Article 148 of the Constitution the appointment of all judges except the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court Justices.
25. Article 149 of the Constitution prescribes that all judges shall be appointed according to a law, and that appointed judges shall have the educational standard and capacity and conduct to hold such a position.
26. Article 285 of the Constitution states that the JSC shall determine whether sitting judges are in accordance with the characteristics prescribed in Article 149, within two years from the date of adoption of the Constitution<sup>12</sup>.
27. The Judges Act came into force on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2010, two days after the prescribed duration for the JSC to determine whether sitting judges fitted the prescription in Article 149 of the Constitution.

### **Concerns**

28. A fundamental question on the breach of Article 285 of the Constitution by the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) in re-appointing judges after the ratification of the Constitution on 7 August 2008 remains un-checked<sup>13</sup>. The Supreme Court judges were sworn in for life before the Judges Act was enacted. It should be noted that the Act specifying the mandatory qualifications for judges came into force after this significant event and no checks have been made to ensure whether these judges comply with the qualifications stated in the Judges Act. The JSC designed a criteria of judges which enveloped all of the sitting judges, regardless of low educational

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13037&LangID=E>

<sup>12</sup> The Constitution was adopted on 7 August 2008.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/maldivesen.pdf>

background and ignored allegations of criminal offenses and misconduct. This criteria was designed citing the lack of a law governing the criteria of judges within the duration that the Constitution granted for the approval of sitting judges<sup>1415</sup>.

29. Instead of following recommendations to address existing issues and respect fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution, the Supreme Court has, on 24 July 2014, adopted new regulations criminalising on contempt of court<sup>16</sup>. The new regulations specify spoken or written words as well as deeds and gestures that constitute contempt of court to include portraying the judiciary in a negative light, any utterance or action that demeans a court, a judge, or court officer, “criticising or berating a court or a judge, or committing any act that causes loss of respect and dignity of a court or a judge, or attempting to bring the court into disrepute.” Other actions specified as contempt of court include various forms of freedom of expression and even minor offenses specified in the Penal Code. Abuse of legal concepts, especially the concepts of “independence of the judiciary” and “contempt of Court” by the Courts to censure freedom of expression and prevent criticism of the Courts and judges was raised as an issue of serious concern by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Ms. Gabriela Knaul, in her report (2012)<sup>17</sup>. At least two lawyers have been suspended for “contempt of Court” following their criticism of Courts on social media<sup>18</sup>; and at least one lawyer, one journalist and one MP was prosecuted for criticism of the Supreme Court on a TV programme<sup>19</sup>.
30. Allegations of criminal offences and misconduct by judges remain without investigation and the Judicial Service Commission is seen to cover-up judges’ misconduct and protect judges instead of conducting investigations into allegations and holding judges accountable<sup>20</sup>. This has led to impunity in judges and the eroding of public confidence in the justice system. Transparency Maldives survey[6] (2014) found 46% of the public had “no confidence at all” in the courts, 33% having “some confidence” and only 20% expressing satisfaction with the courts<sup>21</sup>.
31. Politicisation of the Courts, especially the Supreme Court, is evident in its interventions in the presidential elections (2013)<sup>22</sup>, and thereafter the removal of the Elections Commissioner weeks before the parliamentary elections (2014), sentencing him to six months imprisonment for

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.dhivehisitee.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/The%20Failed%20Silent%20Coup.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/maldives-future-a-cycle-of-failed-governments-report-51704>

<sup>16</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/supreme-court-enacts-new-contempt-of-court-regulations-89036>

<sup>17</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/a-justice-system-in-crisis-un-special-rapporteurs-report-58541>

<sup>18</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/supreme-court-suspends-prominent-lawyer-pending-investigation-for-contempt-75883>

<sup>19</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/supreme-court-questions-mdp-lawyer-hisaan-hussain-over-alleged-contempt-of-court-72316>

<sup>20</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/mdn-to-seek-court-order-compelling-jsc-to-reconsider-judge-hameed-decision-87804>

<sup>21</sup> <http://transparency.mv/en/publications/downloads/democracy-at-the-crossroads-b3e3e393c77e35a4a3f3cbd1e429b5dc>

<sup>22</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/civil-society-joins-criticism-of-supreme-courts-actions-against-ec-78522>



contempt of court<sup>23</sup>. The international community observing elections 2013 raised concerns on the conduct of the Supreme Court and the politicisation of the courts. The result of the intervention was the annulment of the first round of elections, whereby the right to vote was stripped of the citizens of the Maldives.

## **Recommendations**

- d) *That the government of Maldives and the Parliament expedite all necessary actions in order to fully implement the Article 285 of the Constitution, amend the criterion of judges according to the Article 149 of the Constitution, and hold accountable those in charge of conducting discipline of judges, namely the Judicial Service Commission.*

## **RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND THE GIRL CHILD**

### **International obligations**

32. Maldives rejected the recommendation made on ratifying the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons due to financial and technical capacity constraints.
33. In March 2010, Maldives withdrew its reservation on Article 7(a) of CEDAW as the 2008 Constitution removed the gender bar which existed in the previous Constitution of 1998 that prevented a woman from holding the position of Head of State.
34. Maldives agreed to remove its reservations, on CEDAW Article 16, paragraphs 1(a), 1(b), 1(e), 1(g) and 1(h), and paragraph 2 of Article 16. The changes have not yet taken place.

### **Constitutional and legislative framework**

35. The Article 17 of the Constitution assures equality between men and women.
36. In 2012 Maldives enacted laws on Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (3/2012). This Act addresses the investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of violence against women.
37. The Family Law (4/2000) was amended in 2013. However, the amendment (11/2013) made to the Family Law does not address existing issues that girls and women face such as female genital mutilation and circumcision, withdrawal from school and being coerced into marriages, all of which are subject to the will of their paternal guardians . Further amendments need to be made

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<sup>23</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/supreme-court-strips-fuwad-fayaz-of-ec-membership-79344>

with respect to the removal of Articles mentioned in para 1.3 concerning the equality of men and women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations.

38. The Law on Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Abuse (law number 16/2014) was ratified in 2014. The law addresses gender discrimination at workplaces, educational institutes and other service providers. It mandates the creation of a committee to investigate sexual harassment complaints at all workplaces with more than 30 employees.
39. The Sexual Offences Act (law number 17/2014) was ratified this year. It is noteworthy that the Act criminalises marital rape in exceptional circumstances, which relates to the intentional transference of a sexually transmitted disease to a wife.
40. The President recently merged the Department of Gender with the Attorney General's Office with the title 'Ministry of Gender and Law.

### Concerns

41. There has been a rise in sexual and domestic violence against women and girls despite the enactment of Prevention of Domestic Violence Act and Sexual Offences Act<sup>24,25</sup>. Victims and survivors of domestic violence systematically fail to get justice because the judicial system favors confessional rather than forensic evidence<sup>26</sup>.
42. Women continue to disproportionately receive flogging sentences due to the fact that sentence to flog is passed based on confession to sexual intercourse outside of marriage. It is noted that a higher proportion of women confess to the act in courts while men choose to deny these acts, whereby only women received the sentence to flog due to the lack of a system of forensic investigation into the matter. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Madam Navi Pillay has noted the practice of flogging in the Maldives as a breach of its obligations under several human rights treaties<sup>27</sup>.
43. Access to reproductive health care remains an issue for unmarried women due to criminalisation of giving birth outside of wedlock, and reporting by health caregivers. This leads to illegal and unsafe abortion practices, as these are areas perceived to be sensitive and controversial in the social context. The State's lack of acknowledgement of these issues is highly irresponsible<sup>28</sup>.

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<sup>24</sup> <http://www.haveeru.com.mv/news/49609>

<sup>25</sup> [http://www.unicef.org/rosa/protection\\_7972.htm](http://www.unicef.org/rosa/protection_7972.htm)

<sup>26</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/fourteen-year-old-girl-latest-victim-in-surge-of-rape-crimes-62270>

<sup>27</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/maldivian-islamic-groups-call-for-arrest-of-un-high-commissioner-on-human-rights-28676>

<sup>28</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/discovery-of-dead-baby-in-outdoor-shower-a-distressing-reminder-of-the-maldives-failure-to-address-unwanted-pregnancies-39815>

44. There is a growing concern that although child marriages are not allowed by the State, it has become frequent practice by families where children are married off to much older men outside of courts, rendering these marriages undocumented. Although to a lesser extent, it is also known that children are being given away as concubines too. The police have intervened in some cases while there is no monitoring of the situation or preventive measures. Several issues such as female genital mutilation, circumcision, refused schooling and immunisation are faced by girls due to the rise in fundamentalist views in the country<sup>2930</sup>. The fact that FGM was encouraged and promoted by a statement made by the Vice President of the Fiqh Academy, Dr. Iyaz Abdul Latheef on MvislamQA.com, is particularly concerning<sup>31</sup>.
45. While the government has announced commitment to have more women in public life by raising women's representation in independent institutions, committees and other decision-making bodies, women are not equally represented in these bodies. The Elections Commission is an all-male body, and the government recently announced an all-male Sports Commission. The last parliament held 5 out of 77 elected women MPs while the proportion has diluted to 5 out of 85 for the present parliament.
46. The Supreme Court overturning the vote of no-confidence by the Parliament against President of the Civil Service Commission on charges of sexual harassment of a female employee, encourages such forms of violence against women to thrive within the workplace<sup>32</sup>.

## Recommendations

- e) *That the government of Maldives not delay any further the removal of reservation placed on the Article 16 of the CEDAW;*
- f) *That the government of Maldives as a matter of urgency stop the continuation of, and take lawful action against those imposing female genital mutilation and circumcision on girls and women.*
- g) *That the government of Maldives shall, in public consultation and in collaboration with civil society conduct a full review of the Family Law (law number 4/2000).*
- h) *That the government of Maldives as a matter of urgency take lawful action against those encouraging the removal of girls from schools, those discouraging the immunisation of children, and birth control.*

<sup>29</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/rising-religious-fundamentalism-conservative-thinking-impacting-women-department-of-national-planning-60859>

<sup>30</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/fiqh-academy-vp-condemns-sexual-offenses-bill-for-conditional-criminalisation-of-marital-rape-74565>

<sup>31</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/fiqh-academy-vp-endorses-female-genital-mutilation-77037>

<sup>32</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/supreme-court-overturns-parliaments-dismissal-of-csc-chair-mohamed-fahmy-for-sexual-harrasment-54719>

## **TORTURE AND POLICE BRUTALITY**

### **Scope of International Obligations**

47. The Maldives ratified the CAT in April 2004 and its Optional Protocols in February 2006. The Maldives ratified the ICCPR and its First Optional Protocols in September 2006.

### **Constitutional and legislative framework**

48. Articles 45 to 54 of the Constitution assures the rights related to torture, inhumane and degrading treatment.

49. Prevention of Torture Act (law number 13/2013) defines forms of torture and inhumane or degrading treatment, those that can be stated state officials among perpetrators, how an act is constituted as a form of torture and penalties for the crimes.

50. Police Act (law number 5/2008) defines the mandate of the police, the police hierarchy, the powers of the police and obedience to orders.

51. Regulation of the Police Use of Force, under the Police Act, regulates the forms of authority and power that the police have and how it should be used.

### **Concerns**

52. Following the controversial transition of power in 2012 the report of the Commission of National Inquiry (CoNI) highlighted the issue of brutality by the police and security services which the then Attorney General Azima Shakoor openly rejected on state media<sup>33</sup>. Investigation reports and recommendations by the Human Rights Commission and Police Integrity Commission included similar remarks regarding the law enforcement agencies<sup>343536</sup>. Some of the police officers were recommended by the PIC to be discharged from service, however these recommendations are left unheeded by the government<sup>3738</sup>.

53. It is gravely concerning that reports of torture in the prisons and detention centers in Maldives have begun to increase. Testimonials of those released or transferred to medical care have

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<sup>33</sup> <http://www.miadhu.com/2012/09/local-news/no-actions-will-be-taken-against-police-and-army-officers-ag/>

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.haveeru.com.mv/mma/44095>

<sup>3535</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/police-crackdown-on-february-8-brutal-without-warning-hrcm-42434>

<sup>36</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/pic-concludes-investigation-into-brutal-and-inhuman-conduct-by-police-during-power-transfer-59003>

<sup>37</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/february-9-detainees-in-addu-%E2%80%9Cforced-to-walk-on-smoldering-coals%E2%80%9D-say-former-pic-chair-77183>

<sup>38</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/%E2%80%9Cwhat-police-officers-did-on-february-6-7-and-8-were-crimes%E2%80%9D-police-integrity-commission-52508>

related accounts of different forms of torture and maltreatment by State officials. A young inmate from Maafushi jail was beaten to death inside his cell by inmates from other cells. It is alleged that prison guards are implicated in this murder<sup>39</sup>. A second inmate, a young man sentenced for drug use, is currently undergoing intense medical care after having to undergo several critical surgeries due to severe infections caused by negligence of prison guards in attending to a toothache that the inmate repeatedly requested for.

54. A large group of youth were arrested from a party on a picnic island, where the young men and women were subjected to police brutality, foul language and humiliating treatment. Furthermore the police refused to allow the girls to change clothes from beachwear, and ordered them to wear used men's sarongs while they were brought to the Criminal Court for extension of detention<sup>40</sup>.
55. Several cases of torture and inhumane treatment have been filed at different institutions including the Human Rights Commission, the Police Integrity Commission, the Department of Penitentiary and Rehabilitation Service and the Maldives Police Service. However, almost all cases end with no redress, and a culture of impunity and lack of confidence in the criminal justice system<sup>41,42,43</sup>.

### **Recommendations**

- i) *That the government of Maldives take lawful action against perpetrators of police brutality, torture and inhumane treatment with immediate effect;*
- j) *That the government of Maldives fully comply with recommendations made by the Police Integrity Commission and the Human Rights Commission of Maldives with regard to the actions of the police on 6,7 and 8 February 2012.*

### **CONCLUSION**

56. Close analysis of the situation of human rights in the country and developments since the first cycle of UPR show that compliance with international human rights obligations is at a very superficial level in the Maldives. Enactment of legislation will not suffice when the State allows other legislation to curb those rights that obligations mandate. Furthermore, legislation and good will can only bear fruit with implementation.

<sup>39</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/hospitalised-maafushi-inmate-ibrahim-azar-dies-from-injuries-83120>

<sup>40</sup> <http://minivannews.com/society/the-authorities-arrived-in-a-wave-of-terror-says-eyewitness-of-anbaraa-arrests-83439>

<sup>41</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/no-redress-no-compensation-no-reconciliation-87876>

<sup>42</sup> <http://minivannews.com/politics/mdp-mp-submits-resolution-to-form-commission-to-investigate-torture-45942>

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.uncuffedmv.com/>

57. It is disheartening that the Maldives has not implemented sufficiently the recommendations made at the first review, and has in fact added to the list of misgivings by a people who are being further repressed in a fast regressing society.
58. It is essential that the State take heed of recommendations made by the member states, domestic institutions and civil society in order to move forward with peace, harmony and a content citizenry.
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