

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ޖުމްހޫރިއްޔާ ގެ ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ޖުމްހޫރިއްޔާ

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES IN THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

Intervention at the Sixth Session of the Committee on Social Development, 20 and 21
October 2020

Agenda Item 3: Consideration of the Asia-Pacific indicator framework

To be delivered by: Ms. Huda Ali Shareef, Permanent Representative of Maldives to UNESCAP
Bangkok, 21 October 2020

*Excellencies,
Madame Chair, Colleagues and Distinguished Delegates*

Good afternoon everyone.

On behalf of the Maldives delegation, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the comprehensive presentation and for the substantive report issued under this agenda item for our consideration.

The government of Maldives recognizes this important initiative of having an integrated framework to ensure the well-being of people as an essential step in development. The pandemic has further highlighted that timely identification and intervention is crucial to address the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized. It also allows better policy design and implementation, better analysis and participation by all stakeholders as well as better coordination. Social protection mechanisms and data gathering mechanisms enabled key policy interventions during this acute social and economic crisis we had to face due to the pandemic. It further highlighted the need to strengthen and enhance these mechanisms further, and paved way for evidence-based decision making through better data collection, management and dissemination.

On Population and Development, the Maldives has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of gender statistics that examined both data and statistical capacity gaps. The assessment also aimed at providing an overview of current production, coordination and communication of gender statistics in the Maldives Statistical System (MSS) and we will be able to measure the gender indicators required by the framework. We recognize the importance of addressing the current data gaps we are working to ensure availability of data,

improving systematic collection and management of data, especially disaggregated data with a focus on disaggregation by age, sex, locality, persons with disabilities and other vulnerabilities.

As a small island state, our challenges are numerous. We need your assistance and support in the areas of capacity-building, building effective data systems, producing timely and relevant data and sharing data in meaningful ways.

The Government of Maldives gives full commitment to provide required data for the indicators. We also take this opportunity to thank UNESCAP and other collaborating partners for the support you have provided us. It is our desire to continue working together to further cooperation to ensure that the framework will be used to identify those who were furthest behind and develop appropriate policies and interventions to leave no one behind.

I thank you.

First draft by: Ministry of Gender, Ministry of National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and Fathimath Razana, 14 October 2020

Reviewed by: Ms. Huda Ali Shareef, Permanent Representative of UNESCAP

Approved for clearance from HQ:

Approval from HQ by: FS Ghafoor, 15 October 2020

Delivered by: