



Statement by Her Excellency Fathimath Niuma,
Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning and Infrastructure
at the Fifty-Fifth Session of the Commission on Population and Development
25 April 2022

Mr Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. I wish to congratulate you, Mr Chair, and the Bureau for your leadership of this Fifg0 G[)]TETQ0.00000912 0 612 792 reW*nBTF1 14.04 Tf1s9t612 792 reW*nBTF4 14.04

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3. Almost two years into the pandemic, Maldives have made remarkable progress in overcoming many challenges. First and foremost, Maldives continues to implement the Programme of Action of the ICPD in reducing poverty, achieve universal health coverage, and universal education, while addressing the needs of the vulnerable population, and advancing gender equality.

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particular, , considering the multiple challenges facing developing countries today. The Pandemic has reinforced the importance of sustained and inclusive economic growth in overcoming our complex and ever-evolving global challenges.

- 5. Our vaccination policy is a clear example of this approach. We set a target to vaccinate all residents of the Maldives, irrespective of their nationality, origin, and status of residency in the country. We are happy to note that this forward-thinking and pragmatic approach has provided an effective response to the pandemic and a resilient recovery for the people of the Maldives, and its economy. Ladies and Gentlemen,
- 6. Given the vulnerability of Small Island Developing States, fear that people may face the risk of sliding back into poverty with effects of the pandemic cannot be ignored. Amidst the pandemic, we have been able to assess the vulnerability of the population, where close to one in every three people (29% of the population) faces multidimensional vulnerability in the country.

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7. Recovery policies must be viewed as opportunity to build resilience and increase inclusivity, especially in the context of mitigating climate change and its adverse effects. Our polices are geared towards increasing the use of renewable energy in its energy mix, while also promoting energy efficiency. We are determined to decrease our dependency on fossil fuels. In addition, phasing-out single-use plastic in Maldives by 2023 is a commitment by the government.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

8. In recent years, Maldives have made considerable progress towards gender equity and equality. This is evident in the positive shift in the increasing gender parity and the





Mr. Chair,

10. The Government of Maldives is committed to invest in our people to accelerate, and scale up our progress towards the 2030 Agenda. Our commitments at the Nairobi Summit remains un-wavered. Our progress aims to result in a success story backed by evidence and data.

I thank you.