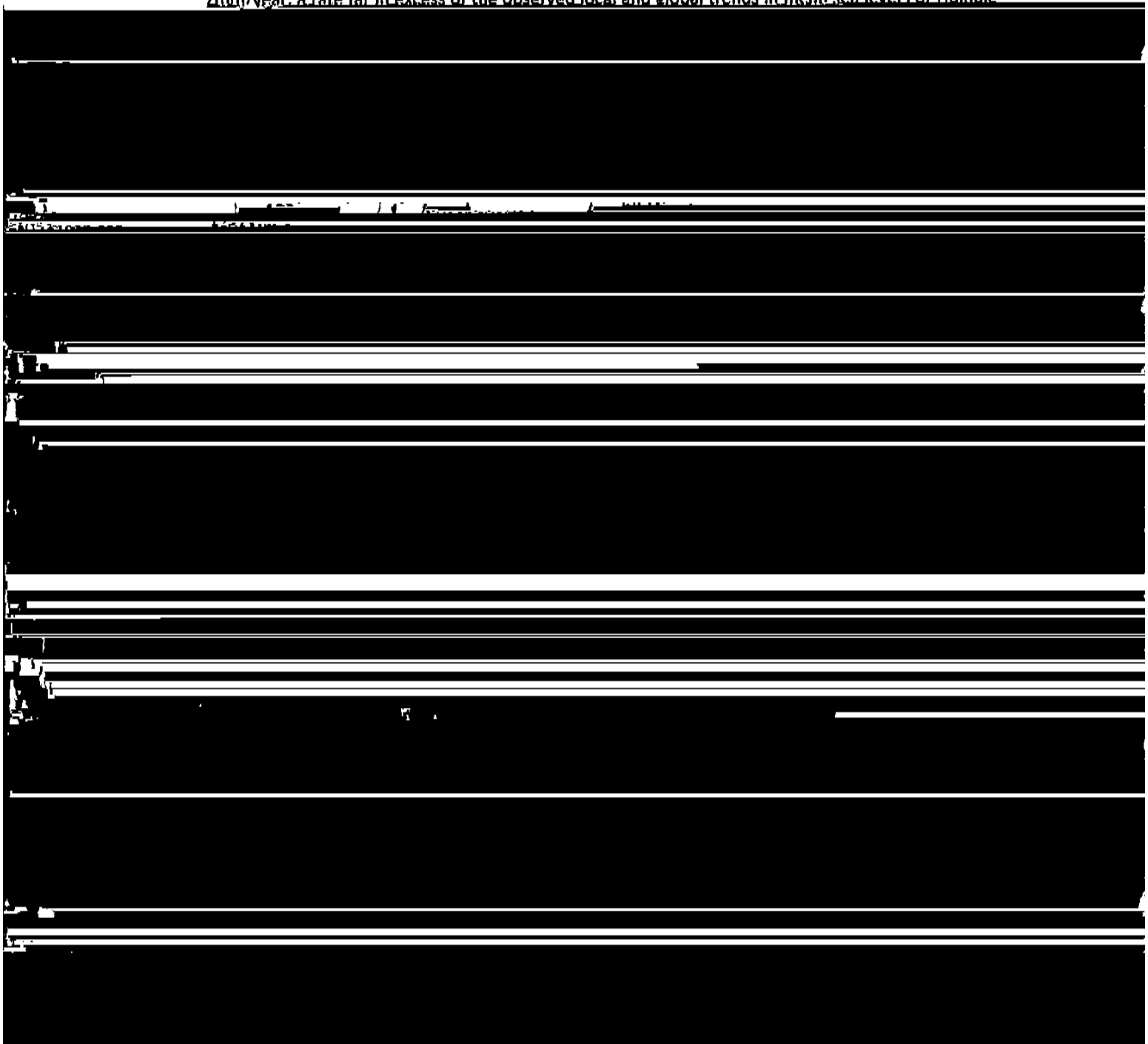


Response paper to the security implications of climate change draft report

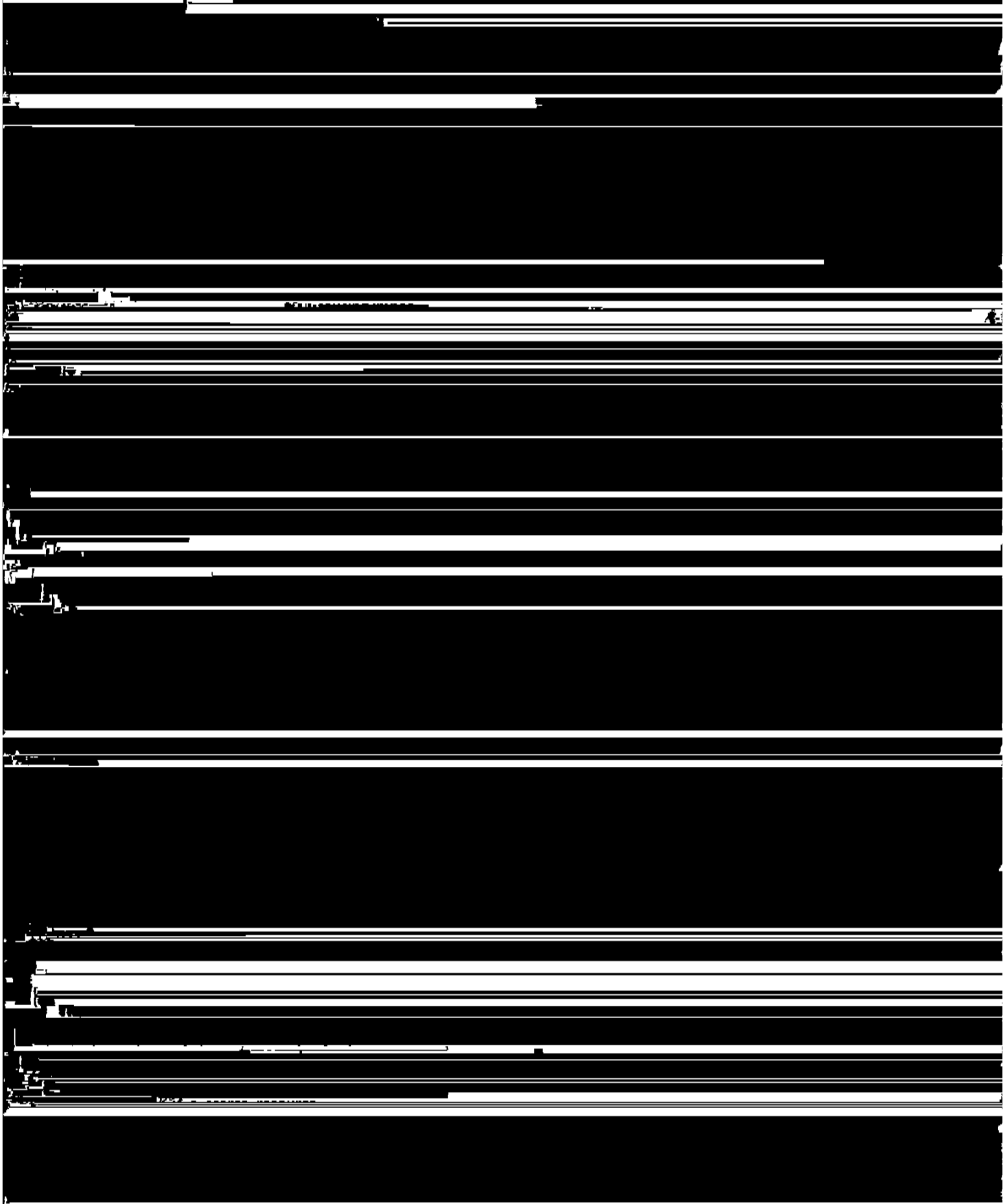
Particular Vulnerabilities and Security Threats

Rising Sea Levels

The global mean sea level rose 10 to 20cm during the 20th century at the rate of 1 to 2mm/year. Future sea level is projected to rise within the range of 9 to 88cm between 1990 and 2100. Sea level is projected to rise under all scenarios of IPCC Special Reports on Emission Scenarios (SRES). The projected average rate of increase is 5mm/year, with a range of 2 to 9mm/year (IPCC 2001) For Maldives, the observed long term trend in relative sea level for Hulhulé (Male' International Airport Weather Station) is 1.7mm/year. The maximum hourly sea level is increasing by approximately 7mm/year, a rate far in excess of the observed local and global trends in mean sea level For Hulhulé



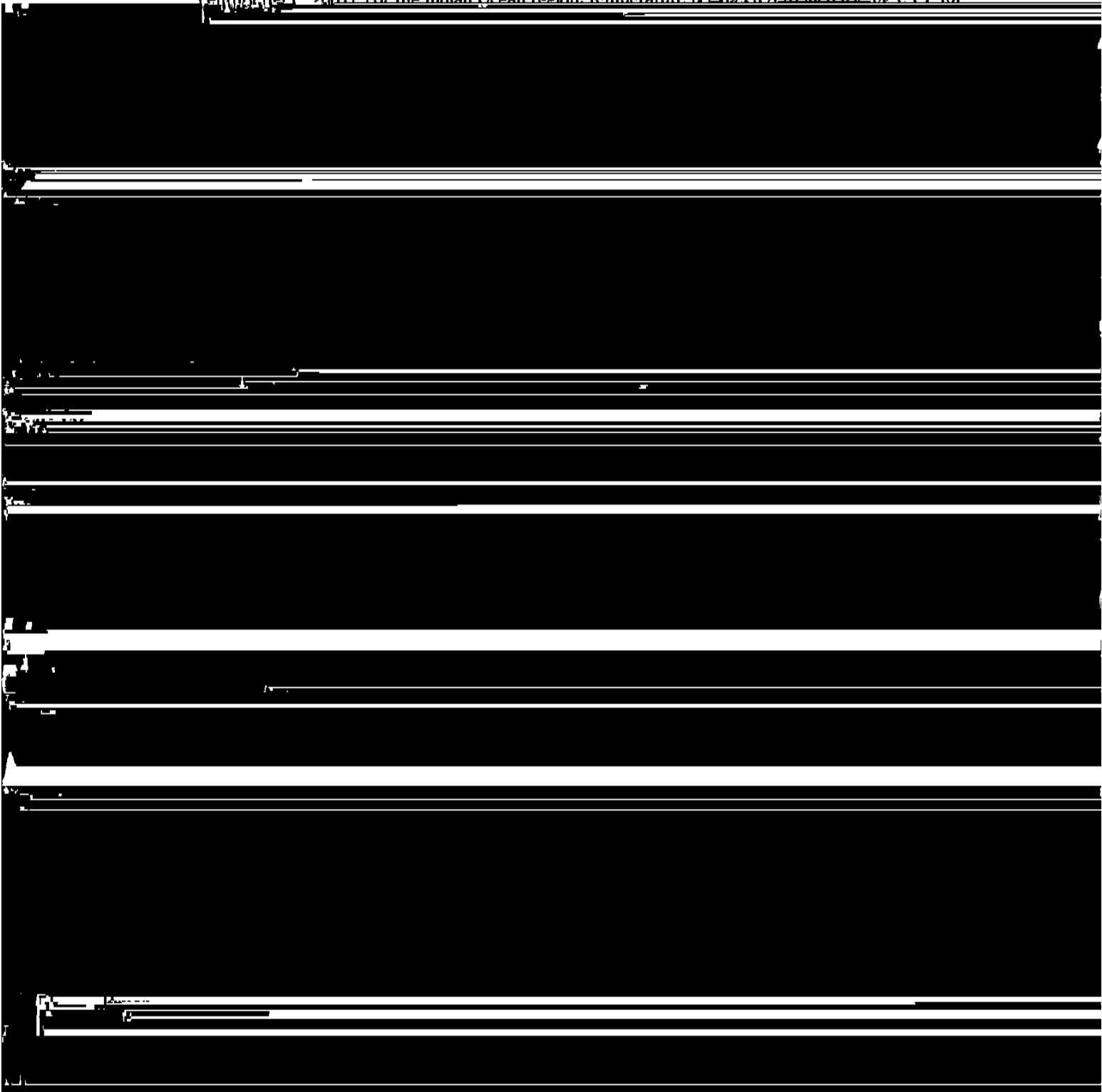
groundwater for washing, bathing and other non-potable uses. Saltwater intrusion would also affect



Precipitation and Temperature

Although the global average precipitation is projected to increase during the 21st century, a marginal decline in precipitation is projected for the Indian Ocean region (Nurse and Sem 2001). The predicted changes in precipitation have the potential to impact on rainwater harvesting across all the atolls and in particular the northern atolls. Drinking water shortages during dry periods is a significant challenge for the atoll population even at present.

The global average surface temperature is projected to increase by 1.4 to 5.8°C over the period 1990 to 2100. The projected rate of warming is much larger than the observed changes during the 20th century (IPCC 2001). For the Indian Ocean region, temperature is expected to increase by 2.1°C for



resolution is complimented by The General Assembly resolution A/RES/63/281 which intern compliments the discussion on Climate Change and Human Rights which brings in a blanket approach to the issue. It is importantly noted that the general Assembly resolution notes that the assembly is *"Deeply Concerned that the adverse impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, could have possible security implications"*. Climate Change is not an environmental issue, it is a human

rights issue. It is the right to live. It is a fundamental right. Therefore, it is non-negotiable¹.

Immediate Actions to Avert or Reduce Security Threats

Adaptation:

Adaptation issues are also addressed under the UNFCCC process.

The Program of Action has been developed in Maldives to communicate the most urgent and immediate adaptation needs, as stipulated under UNFCCC Decision 28/CP.7, which also responds to the security implications and sustainable development goals.

Mitigation:

Mitigation issues are also addressed under the UNFCCC process.

Maldives along with many other SIDS and LDCs calls for an ambitious mitigation action from all the nations, which will address to security implications. Also, a higher priority has been given by the president of Maldives in achieving carbon neutrality for the year 2019.

Long –Term Mechanism to address and respond to Security Threats

As mentioned in the above actions, Maldives call for urgent and immediate action, if failed to do so, relocation of people is inevitable¹.

Mainstreaming of climate change issues and mitigation and adaptation has been the long-term mechanism to respond security threats. The strategy for long-term response to security threats is through addressing and acting on the immediate priority measures needed. In this respect National Adaptation Programme of Action which addresses priority areas has been