

*High-level meeting on the rule of law at the national and international levels*

## Pledge registration form

The Republic of Maldives hereby pledges (max. 10 lines):

- 1) To sign, accede and ratify a number of international conventions (see details) by 2014, including the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime, and the ILO's eight core conventions.
- 2) To increase the capacity and effective functioning of the national legal framework (see details), including increasing the access to justice, enhancing oversight and accountability of law enforcement agencies, strengthening of independence instructions and promoting the protection of human rights.
- 3) To increase financial accountability, strengthen cooperate governance and to fight corruption (see details).
- 4) To increase empowerment of women and children (see details).
- 5) To strengthen the nexus between the international and national levels on the rule of law (see details).

(Note: Pledge should include specific dates)

Proposed implementation steps (in 2013 or if later, please specify - \_\_\_\_\_):

- Pledge 1 – Through 2014-2015.
- Pledge 2 – Through 2013-2016
- Pledge 3 – By 2014
- Pledge 4 - Through 2014-2015.
- Pledge 5 – By 2016.

**Pledging State: Republic of Maldives**

Contact information for responsible official(s):

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Date: 19 September 2012

Place: New York

Signature: .....

Additional contact information for person/service/institution in charge of follow-up:  
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**Return Information:**

Please submit this Pledge registration form to the Rule of Law Unit (email: [rule-of-law@un.org](mailto:rule-of-law@un.org) or fax: +1-212-963-2030).



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## **Pledges by the Republic of Maldives**

### **Strengthening Rule of Law at the International Level**

1. The Republic of Maldives will ratify or accede to the following treaties by 2014.
  - a. ILO's Eight Core Conventions on Fundamental Human Rights
  - b. UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocols
  - c. International Convention for the Protection of all persons from Enforced Disappearance
2. The Republic of Maldives will sign the International convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families by 2014
3. The Republic of Maldives will incorporate the following treaties into national law by drafting implementing legislation, and seek international assistance from bilateral and multilateral assistance providers to develop relevant national capacity in order to comply fully with such treaties, by 2015:
  - a. Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations
  - b. Vienna Convention on Consular Relations
4. The Republic of Maldives will enact the required legislation in order to meet its obligations under the agreements of the World Trade Organisation by the end of the transitional period.

## **Strengthening Rule of Law at the National Level**

1. The Republic of Maldives will support the strengthening of the justice sector through the following actions to be implemented by the Judiciary:
  - a. Develop a training program for members of the Bench, especially newly recruited judges, as well as provide a mechanism for ongoing training for judges throughout their period of service, especially in specialised areas of the law, by the development of the Judicial Training Institute, by 2014.
  - b. Compile and publish case reports on an annual basis and develop a central law reporting database and seek international assistance from bilateral and multilateral assistance providers in order to achieve this by 2016
  - c. Develop a publicly accessible judgment debt database by 2016.
2. By the end of 2012, the Republic of Maldives will develop a five year action plan for human resource development in the area of rule of law, and seek bilateral and multilateral assistance for its implementation.
3. By 2016, the Republic of Maldives will develop and carry out alternative dispute resolution mechanisms such as mediation and arbitration, and seek bilateral and multilateral assistance in this regard.
4. By 2015, the Maldives will find debt recovery solutions and mortgage implementation solutions to enable better justice in the commercial and banking sector.
5. By July 2013, the Republic of Maldives will prepare an action plan for the purpose of further enhancing police accountability and integrity, through the following actions:
  - a. Strengthen the internal review and oversight mechanism in the Maldives Police Service;
  - b. Strengthen the external review and monitoring of law enforcement operations and human rights violations by strengthening the Police Integrity Commission and providing the Commission with the required powers, human resources, training and financial resources to effectively perform its functions.
6. By July 2013, the Republic of Maldives will prepare and implement a national action plan for the prevention of crime including setting prioritized crimes to be prevented and a

targeted reduction rate of crime with a special focus on the reduction of violent crime and sexual offences, and financial and cross border crime.

7. By 2016, the Republic of Maldives will implement measures to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Maldives Police Service, through the proposed Police Academy and the newly established Institute for Law Enforcement Studies, and increase police capacity in evidence based investigations, including forensic and scientific evidence
8. By 2014, the Republic of Maldives will formulate a comprehensive strategy on reforming the prisons, with targets for rehabilitation and reintegration, and lobby towards the enactment of the Prisons and Parole Bill.
9. By 2015, the Republic of Maldives will introduce an alternative sentencing mechanism, strengthen the system for implementation of sentences, and enact legislation on extradition.
10. The Republic of Maldives will develop a national strategy for the introduction of a restorative justice programme and seek international assistance towards its formulation and implementation by 2015.
11. By the end of 2012, the Republic of Maldives will finalise the National Master Plan for the Consolidation of Democracy, which will outline the policies for strengthening the rule of law, including constitutional development, strengthening independent institutions and the media, human rights and vulnerable groups protection, legislative development, corporate governance and financial accountability, development of the judiciary, local governance and civil society participation, and criminal, civil and gender justice.

## **Corporate Governance, Financial Accountability, and Fighting Corruption**

1. By 2014, the Republic of Maldives will develop an agenda for corporate governance and economic sector regulation, identify needs, and seek international assistance to address those needs, including the use of applicable UNCITRAL standards in the enactment or revision of laws.
2. In its fight against corruption and strengthening public spending and financial accountability, the Republic of Maldives will:
  - a. Complete a United Nations Convention against Corruption gap analysis and work towards fully implementing the provisions of the Convention by developing a

national strategy and seek international assistance for full implementation of the Convention by 2014.

- b. Strengthen the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Auditor General's Office, by proposing the necessary amendments to legislation, and providing the institutions with the required resources in terms of budgeting and human resource development and training.
- c. Strengthen procurement practises in the state including procurement in state owned enterprises by July 2014.
- d. Develop guidelines for state investment and asset management by 2015.
- e. Conduct a nationwide survey on the status of corruption in the country and formulate and implement a comprehensive national anti-corruption strategy and seek international assistance by 2014

## **Empowering Women and Children**

1. The Republic of Maldives set up measures to implement the newly enacted Domestic Violence Act, and strengthen the Family Protection Authority by 2013.
2. The Republic of Maldives will take affirmative action to address the disadvantages faced by women and implement special programmes to increase the representation of women in public offices, both elected and appointed, by 2015
3. By 2015, the Republic of Maldives will open safe houses for victims of sexual and domestic violence, and set up measures to assist them in finding legal and other remedies.
4. By July 2014, the Republic of Maldives will take action to ensure education for girls, including affirmative action to encourage tertiary and postgraduate education.

## **Strengthening the Nexus between the National and International Levels**

### **Addressing Transnational Threats**

1. By 2015, the Republic of Maldives will enact legislation on human trafficking.
2. By 2016, the Republic of Maldives will develop a media campaign to:
  - a. Protect vulnerable groups from trafficking in persons;
  - b. Adolescents and young people from being used or recruited by organized crime and terrorist groups