



40th Session of the Human Rights Council

Joint Statement Delivered by Ms Sally Ann de Brum (Marshall Islands)

On Behalf of the Beneficiary Delegates of the LDCs/SIDS Fund at HRC40

Bangladesh, Lesotho, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Samoa, Timor Leste and Trinidad and Tobago

Statement to delivered at the General Debate of Item 6: Universal Periodic Review

Friday 15th March 2019

Mr President,

I am honoured to speak on behalf of the seven LDCs and SIDs beneficiary delegates namely from Bangladesh, Lesotho, Myanmar, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Timor-Leste, and Trinidad and Tobago. Six of whom, it is their first time to attend a Human Rights Council Session in Geneva. In this regard, we wish to express our gratitude to the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund and donor friends, in supporting us to attend and participate in the work of the Council.

All of the beneficiary delegates are actively involved in the ratification and implementation of human rights conventions and treaty body reporting including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). We acknowledge the importance of the UPR in the protection of human rights through its reporting mechanism and peer review, and reaffirm our commitment in ensuring the implementation of our respective recommendations as we approach the third cycle.

Mr President,

We wish to recognise the limited capacity and challenges faced as Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the compilation of the treaty bodies' reporting, and the implementation of recommendations. We acknowledge the assistance received thus far from the Secretariat, and fellow Member states, and we call on for continued support to enable us to effectively meet our international human rights obligations. We reiterate the call for continued universal participation in the Council as in Resolution 34/40.

Thank you Mr President