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י גרם יו גום גרם כם. ארות הסצית פראבת אי פית:

Welcome WFD and Villa College to our meeting. And this is our 17th committee meeting of Human Rights and Gender Committee. We would start by introducing ourselves from both sides and we first our members will introduce themselves. And then we will hand over the floor to you, because since this is a meeting that is been request by from your side we would open the floor to you. You can start by introducing yourselves. And this meeting has been broadcasted in YouTube, it's a live meeting. So, if you have anything to disclose or any sensitive information, please keep that in mind as well. So, we will start by introducing ourselves. I am the chairperson of Human Rights Gender Committee, and I represent Nilandhoo constituency in the Parliament. And my name is Fathimath Saudha, I am from the ruling party PNC. And yeah, I will open the floor to members.



Kudahuvadhoo constituency member Hussain Hameed speaking:

Thank you Chair. I am Hussain Hameed, from Kudahuvadhoo constituency. I am, my post is Vice Chair of this committee. Thank you.

<u>Central Henveyru constituency member Hussain Nasih speaking:</u> I am Hussain Nasih, Central Henveyru constituency.

Guraidhoo constituency member Hanan Mohamed Rasheed speaking: My name is Hanan Mohamed Rasheed. I am from Guraidhoo constituency.

South Kulhudhuffushi constituency member Faruhath Mohamed speaking: I am Faruhath Mohamed. Kulhudhufushi dhekunu constituency.

Huraa constituency member Anara Naeem speaking: I am Anara Naeem, Huraa constituency. Thank you.

<u>Central Maafannu constituency member Asma Rasheed speaking:</u> I am Asma Rasheed from Maafannu medhu dhaaira. It's great pleasure to meet, specially so many women in the group.

<u>Dhaandhoo constituency member Mohamed Fazeel speaking:</u> I am Mohamed Fazeel, Dhaandhoo dhaaira constituency. Welcome to you all.

Chairperson speaking:

Before we hand over the platform to you, I would like to add to what MP Asma has said. She is the current Chair of the Social Committee as well. So, I think the study that you are doing is very much relevant to her committee as well. So, we have Social Committee Chair also among us today.

Gahdhoo constituency Mohamed Ali speaking: Mohamed Ali, Gahdhoo constituency.

Chairperson speaking:



Ok, now the floor is open to your side. You can continue with the presentation and introduction. Thank you.

Senior Lecturer of Villa College Aishath Khaleela AbdulSattar speaking: I am Aishath Khaleela, senior lecturer-Villa College (Faculty of Sharia and Law)

Deen of Faculty of Sharia and Law Asna Ahmed: Hi, I am Asna Ahmed. I am Deen of Faculty of Sharia and Law.

<u>Deen of Institute for research and innovation Fazeela Ibrahim</u>: Fazeela Ibrahim. Deen-Institute for research and innovation, Villa College.

Lecturer of Faculty of Sharia and Law Amish Abdulla:

Good morning. Assalaam Alaikum. I am Amish Abdulla. I am a lecturer at Faculty of Sharia and Law, Villa College. And executive advisal for Villa College law society.

Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain:

Assalaam Alaikum. Thank you. My name is Areej Hussain. I am the country director for WFD Maldives. And from our side we will be presenting on the research proposal that we have for the human rights and gender committee that we have compiled with support from Villa College and the committee staff as well in the past few discussions that we have had. Just to give you a little bit of an idea of what the proposal is going to be about I will give a little bit of an introduction of WFD and the work that we do in the Maldives. Some of you are very familiar with us because you have been part of some of our programs specially the induction program that we completed. But for those who have not been there just to give you an idea of what we are working on and what we plan to do. I also wanted to provide you with a little bit of a background context into the subject area so that you will get an idea of why we particularly want to do this research on the area that we are focusing on and then we will go into the inquiry objectives and the time frame that we have setup for it, the research methodology and the role division between the Human Rights and Gender committee, Villa College and WFD as well. And the expected outcomes that we are looking to see from this research work that we are planning to do. Just to highlight on WFD, WFD stands for Westminster Foundation for Democracy. We are a UK public body that works towards strengthening democracy across the globe. We work in 30+ countries and we have been around for 30+ years. WFD started working in



the Maldives in 2019. Our main work for the past five years has been on promoting inclusivity in law making. And our primary stakeholder has been the parliament. In our work with the parliament, we have done many many works. As I have mentioned before we were the primary partner for the induction programs for the 20th Majlis as well as the 19th Majlis. We worked with specific committees like yours in the past including the Climate Change Committee in developing a peerless post legislative scrutiny on the climate emergency act. We have worked with the Human Rights and Gender committee before as well in supporting inquiries as well as supporting your administrative work developing work planning tools and piloting that with the Human Rights and Gender committee, developing a larger committee digital data base which works towards monitoring and tracking committee related work within the parliament and generally quite a lot of other activities as well.... Sorry yeah? (after some time) Apologies for that. So, like I was saying that kind of gives you a little bit of an overview of what WFD Maldives has been doing in the past five years. And our work in the Maldives in the previous five years as well as our current program is funded by the British High Commission in Maldives. Looking into the research area specifically around political leadership and women because the main area that we want to focus around is the representation of women and some of the barriers for women in politics in particular. As you are very highly aware in the parliamentary election this year we have seen a decrease in percentage of female MPs in the parliament. And this has been a trend since 2014 with fewer female candidates and fewer elected women candidates in the past few rational elections that we have had. So, noting that only 12% of the candidates that ran in the party primaries in 2024 were women as well. But there has been some efforts done at the local level with the introduction of the one third quota that you have had in the decentralization act as well. What does that look like Maldivian context in regards to gender based violence and violence against women in politics in particular? We all know the statistics around gender-based violence, which shows that 1 in 4, 1 in 3 women have experienced violence in their lifetime. 1 in 4 partnered women have experienced physical and or sexual violence from an intimate partner. We have also, well, records that say that all Maldivian women have experienced some form of violence at least once in her life. So, these are statistics that you are quite familiar with, because this is reiterated in every research, every conversation we have around gender. But I want to particularly focus on violence against women in politics because this is an area where data is needed. Because the data in Maldives is modest, and it's difficult to obtain as well. What we have right now is very anecdotal at this point where we have an IFRS study, which shows that the



most frequently reported threats to women in politics come from a source of intimidation and are very much focused on buying. So, taking this into context and also being aware that sexual misconduct is something that is noted as prevalent in the political context. Cases of sexual harassment in the political sphere has been reported in the past decades even were especially in high political office. And, yeah, I just want to take you, take high, just highlight on this particular quote that we got from the study which says that public discourse is hard on women. Social media may have opened the public space, but it has also enabled the constant inauguration of women particularly those in public life. So, this is a quote from a Maldivian study but when you look at the global context, this does match up. So, findings about online violence against women in politics in general show that 58% of women have faced some form of online abuse by the age of 22 globally. And politically active women are disproportionately targeted by online violence, and women in politics are 27 times more likely to face abuse online than their male counterparts. So, these are some global statistics even though we don't have any in the Maldives right now, but what are the consequences of this? These studies have also identified that the online violence against women in politics have reinforced inequality and deterred political engagement for women globally. It also leads to self-censorship by women who are part of politics to especially not be part of certain conversations, especially around women's rights and controversial issues that they don't want to be a part of because it, it ends up with hate or online violence against them in particular. And, ultimately it leads them to a forced choice between their mental health, between their safety and having a career in politics. And which ultimately leads to lower representation of women in general as well. So taking all of this into account our research proposal highlights on online violence against women in politics and the inquiry is set to focus on understanding the forms of online violence against politics and its effect on women's political participation in the Maldives, analyzing the social, legal and policy frameworks that currently exist in our jurisdiction and also looking at the social sort of like enabling context for online violence against women as well. Because of course online violence does not come in a vacuum. It comes from trends that are outside of that online sphere as well. It comes from traditions, cultures and behavioral aspects that are ingrained in society as well. So, we want to make sure that we capture all of this as well. Especially because in our first meeting with the chairperson she actually highlighted that those social aspects need to be taken into account as well. And we want to take that into account when we are developing this work as well. And then finally, to develop recommendations to improve protections and support mechanisms for women in politics. So, the primary focus of this inquiry will be



around women in political roles, especially focusing on elected officials, political candidates, and political activists in the Maldives. And our timeline that we have right now is a period of 3 months for the entire work. That means that by the end, we hope to have the final recommendations compiled by the end of January and with you by then. I will not go too much into detail and bore you with the details of how the research is going to go. But just for your understanding, we do want to have a preliminary review of the legislative framework that you have. We also want from villa college's side they will do data collection from multiple methods to ensure that there is a broad understanding of the issue which might include surveys, interviews, some level of social media or mass media analysis as well and then for villa college to come up with an analysis of the data that they collect, which will then be brought into the committee to develop policy recommendations with the support from WFD as well. What that looks like in roles is that the Human Rights and Gender Committee in general will be overseeing the research and providing, and working as a facilitator to enable the villa college to access stakeholders for the data collection to, and also, at the end of the research develop policy recommendations with the support from the WFD expert. From the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, we have an international expert on boarded who has experience in conducting parliamentary inquiries as well as a background in gender based violence and gender based inquiries and research as well, who will be providing training and guidance when needed to Villa College as well as the committee staff who will be advising on best practices on conducting the research as well as methodologies and assuring that the quality of the research and analysis. And we will be working at an advisory role in the policy recommendations stage to ensure that the committee is provided adequate guidance in developing the policies. From Villa College's side, Villa College will be leading the research from start to finish and also ensuring that the data that they collect is held ethically and up to best practice as well as finalizing the interim and final reports of the research itself. And finally, the expected outcomes of this research work will be of course the research report that Villa College will be providing and then we will have the parliamentary committee's findings, which is the inquiry report itself which combines the research and the initial literature review and the policy recommendations, both developed at the committee level with the support from WFD experts. Then depending on how the committee decides to proceed WFD is willing to provide our services to develop public awareness material for dissemination, which will create user friendly material whether it is for social media or otherwise to help the public understand the findings of the research and the inquiry that you have put forward. So,



yeah, that's about it. Thank you so much for your time and I hope we can take some questions if there are any questions from the committee members.

Chairperson Speaking:

Yes. The floor is open for you. You can ask if any of the honorable members have any questions, please ask.

Dhaandhoo constituency member Mohamed Fazeel speaking:

How did you collect the data for this survey? Because it showed every 1 in 4 of women is getting abused by their male partners.

Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain speaking:

Sorry. Yeah, So the data from the Maldives is from the 2016 DHS survey and some of it is collected from census as well as the National Bureau of Statistics that releases yearly statistics on gender-based violence as well as crime related to women. So, these are analysis, and this analysis specifically was done I think, I can look into it but through DHS. Yes, essentially.

Chairperson speaking:

Any, if you don't have any questions also you can just comment on this about this study, anything that you want to.

Central Maafannu constituency member Asma Rasheed speaking:

We saw many violent reporting in police and in the courts. Have you been able to collect any of those?

Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain speaking:

So, what we have right now is just a very, I mean this was what we have done in order to make sure that we were on the right track in deciding the research topic for this particular area. I think once you have the full literature review and the desk review that we will be able to provide you with more details where necessary on that area.

Chairperson speaking:

Just for the information of our honorable members, this study has not been done yet and they are proposing it to do this way. This is just their plan they are presenting. And if we



could give input, insights on where we can get good information which will make their study you know beneficial for us. We can always give suggestions, ideas to make this better. Like I would like to take this opportunity just to check on how much like from the previous slides, can you show that slide to me? About the; no, one more time. Yes, yes. No, no, that one. About the data collection you have mentioned about how we are going to you know, and then through interviews and stuff we are engaging in people who have experiences, who have gone through these things and very focused, you know targeted group is there. So, what I was thinking is how much do you think a focused group discussion would help this maybe? How much information could you gather from a focused group discussion? Because in a group there will be more ideas will be presented. They will discuss about it, and I think that you might be able to gather some information through these discussions. So, adding them could give you another platform where you can collect, you know, necessary data.

Dhaandhoo constituency member Mohamed Fazeel speaking:

Can you roll the slides back? Because actually I was talking about the information written on the slides. More. Yah, yah. I was talking about this. Because this survey has been done, right?

Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain speaking:

Yes. So, in regards to the ones in our partnered agreement that's from the 2016 DHS server in regards to violence against women in politics that's an IFES study. I can actually provide the committee with the studies that we have referred to in this slide if you would like to take a look at those. Like I said before, in regard to work it's very modest. The data is very modest, which is especially why we want to do this research on this area as well.

Huraa constituency member Anara Naeem speaking:

Thank you Chair. I want to give a suggestion. Because we have experienced as women in our campaigns that we experience many things. That's why I think we can, we need our family support and also, we need party support the most. And those two things it is very much needed for women to come to parliament. We are seeing that from 2014 every year there is a, in 2014 there are 5 women parliamentarians. And in 19th Majlis 4 women parliamentarians and now we are only 3 women parliamentarians. That's why I think, yah, I think we need much support from party. If, party gave slots without primary to some



woman, like 20 women, I think the more, more we can achieve. More women can come the next parliament maybe. Thank you.

Central Maafannu constituency member Asma Rasheed speaking:

To what Anara, MP Anara has said, I think we are ready to fight for slots for women. But the thing is we have to change the legislation. But it is in at present in our party. Parliament also, there is 90 men and 3 women. We should have some method to get them to agree for them to give slots. Then only we can, because if we have to change our law also? Because according to that we in parliaments we can in like local councils and all we can like keep aside some for women, but not in the parliament. We have to change our legislation. So that's why all 93, 90 members if they agree that's so easy. And one more thing is when women stands for election, it's not only the men. It's if all the women votes women, we have to teach people. Women will understand the family, the people more than the men. I'm not saying anything less about the men. But, if all the women stay in a constituency works for the woman, then we are there in seat because we have in the population also, we have more women than the men, isn't it? So, I think we have to change the mindset of the women. That is what I feel.

Kudahuvadhoo constituency member Hussain Hameed speaking:

Thank you, chair. Actually, yes, our, women, politicians are saying, I don't find any limitation for women be in politics. Because we don't find any limitations. They are, we all have same opportunity. We all have the same opportunity. As you know, in our constitution we don't have any limitation for any gender. We are having same opportunity in the politics and other areas as well. But in our this discussion always our women's are fighting for some special quota. I don't think it is possible. Because, as we are having the same right, women and men we are having the same right it is up to them to fight, up to them to contest in more sheets. It is their responsibility to get the public support. There are women's in our constituency there are also so many women are there, who can win the seat. But they don't feel like this participating in the elections. So, yeah, I don't understand why we are talking on this topic to having a special slots for women. We don't believe that.

Central Maafannu constituency member Asma Rasheed speaking:

The thing is we don't want to go back. As a woman if we can come in the same level as men why should we go back and have quota like some developing countries they have



quota. Even, still I think they have in Sri Lanka. Because, when we think of Sri Lanka, in the villages it's so distributed and it's so far off. Maldives it's so small. Consistency is so small. Only 2500, 2800, about 3000 people are there. So, if they really want to serve the people they have to start from the beginning. That's what we think. But now if we have a quota, we are like, women, we are not raising the status of the women. We are lowering the status of women. That's what.

Gadhdhoo constituency member Mohamed Ali speaking:

Actually, I'm totally agree with, Hussain Hameed. Because, actually, we don't have to give a full, we have ground have to allocate the people or the women slots we don't have to allocate. Actually, they can fight. They have the rights to fight. Because actually we have to give. That's what they need always. We don't have to give. Because actually we are talking about only for the Male' area. We are not talking about the island wise. Because actually some people don't know how it works. Actually, you can think local government. So, in that case for the politics we are giving the chance to I think to women's slots are already given. Because they are not performing. We can give a chance. But there we can't see anyone was performing. Only few people. So, now again WDC was there. The politics we give a chance. But we cannot see any performance from them. For the name they were there. So, that's why they have the rights to fight. That's what I can say. And also for this parliament actually the people those who want they have the rights, they have the chance. So, party can't give as a woman, so, this is like 5 slots for the woman or 1 slot for this island. They can't give like this on this constituency. So, this is in my view. Ok.

Chairperson Speaking:

Just to for the sake of talking we cannot generalize saying that we cannot see a performance from WDC and you know women parliamentarians in the across the county or Male'. We can't generalize. I don't think it's good for us to generalize like that. Because we can see very active, very productive WDC's across the country. That's what I'm saying. There are few or some who are not active as such. So, it's not for us to generalize the term like that and then present it. And also, we are not talking about having a particular quota system or the focus of this study is to find out, ok, there is equal opportunity given from the constitution, equal opportunity given from the party sides. But still yet why is woman representation so poor, so low in the parliament or in other elections. So, that's what they are studying. And I think it's as men and women here in



the parliament we also want to know why this is happening. Now is it because of the character as you know, is it a character thing, is it a opportunities in the community or is it mindset of the people or is it something that can be corrected by the party as a party. So, to find a solution to this they are going to conduct a survey to find out a reasons for that. And just to add on to the, to your methodology and you know the process I think WDC's focusing on them and those who have contested in WDC's getting information from them why they back out or why they were not elected or why can't they perform in full scale. Those can be very crucial for this study. So, without focusing, I mean in addition to focusing on what you have presented I think it's going to be good for you to look into WDC's as well. And the women slots councils as well. In local government, you know this area. So, I think that would be helpful as well. And to about the role of the parliament the side you showed, you have shown our committees role all these things, legislative frame work, review, oversighted and governance, facilitating, access to information and also review on recommendations I think the committee will discuss on this particular slide in our committee meeting and see whether how much we can, you know contribute to this. In general, these things we can. But I will go for a discussion and then bring out on that. Then also we have to finalize whether we are going to collaborate with them in this study. I think this information is really necessary for us as Human Rights and Gender committee we should know why, I mean I am curious to know and keen to know why women representation is so poor as we go up the ladder in politics in Maldives. So, at the activist level there are lot of women. It's out numbering the men I think at the activist level. But as we go higher the hierarchy the fewer and then it's very much you know visible and also, I think we are all curious to know them, all the parliamentarians here are curious to know the result of it. And we will contribute as much as we can. And how much we can that we will discuss and then get back to you. Yeah, thank you.

Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain speaking:

Thank you so much Chairperson and thank you to all the members for all their very insightful comments that were made. I just wanted to reassure you in regard to the research that we are doing and why WFD in particular is supporting this research. WFD has no specific mandate on pushing a certain kind of policy. We don't in our programming we are not pushing towards gender quotas in particular. Our mandate is very much around evidence backed to policy making. So, to have polices that are backed by research, backed by actual data that the committee is able to figure out. And this is where the research kind of comes in. As some of the members have highlighted, there is



proof within the legislative framework that there is equality of opportunity within the Maldives in regards to political representation and are participation in politics. The other thing that we look at is the equality of result. And when you look at the equality of result, you do see that there are not enough candidates, not enough representation in any of the national level institutions. And that's where we want to come in and see. Ok, you have the equality of opportunity, but why do we not have the equality of results then. Meaning that there is some kind of discrepancy between the framework that we have and that it's not achieving the result that we are looking at. And that's where research comes in. That's where data comes in. And we are hoping that with the support from the Villa College, with the support from the international expert we are able to deliver some data to you upon which you will make, and ultimately the committee will make upon the guidance from the data as well as the experts. You will make some level of policy decisions in order to further reform the framework that you have or make any chances to it as you see fit best. Yeah, Thank you.

Chairperson speaking:

I would like to add to my previous thing that the current Ministry of Cities and Local Government and Public Works is conducting a study through MNU about how the local government, I mean how the public wants to see the local government, you know to be changed and all. And that includes reforming of, idea of reforming of WDCs or local government how it's been made. And the results of it is also I think can be an important source of information, secondary source of information for you all, where you can look into the parts where the local members sorry, the women members and the WDCs you know, what the data that they collect from that study. So, now also I think it's better for you to, you know we have a conversation with them to see on how much, there might be other things also that you may need. So, it's important, I think an important thing for you to look into. Yeah, Thank you.

Huraa constituency member Anara Naeem speaking:

Thank you. I respect that male MPs opinions. But I strongly believe that we need more women parliamentarians to Majlis for next parliaments. And if we want more women candidates, we have to do somethings. That why I am, I told that we need to change our mindsets. Because this is a People's Majlis. People's means women and men. So now only 3 women parliamentarians, we are not in every committee. I think at least one women candidate parliamentarian needs for each committee to give their opinion. That's



why, my opinion is that we have to do a lot of work to increase number of women parliamentarians for next elections. And that's why I told that party role is very much needed. Because, this time also I think the party supported us. And we come to parliament. That's why I told that if party support to women candidates maybe 20 women can come to next parliament. I think we have to plan. We have to do plans and I would like to thank you for this research also. Yeah. Thank you

Chairperson speaking:

Yes. In adding to that I think from this, the result of this study and the result of what the local government is doing, the study, that will give us an insight on what to work on, you know, for the next parliamentary election maybe. So, what and what is lacking, what and what is needed, what are the things that has to be done in order to make that plan. That's a very good insight, actually

Central Maafannu constituency member Asma Rasheed speaking:

Actually, speaking in our party, even this primary, the party has come forward and president has said women candidates who win the election party will be supporting them like, they didn't do it that because we don't need only 3 of us were there. Extra support to the women even after they get elected. And it was 36 people stood for primaries. Primaries men and women are standing for election. That's why I'm telling why can't all the women come out, make the women to come out and vote the women candidate. We have to educate the women who are living in island. So, in Male', tell them that you can have more, private conversations with us, a woman instead of the men. I'm not saying anything against the men. Men is difficult. If it is a woman they can come to our house and they can talk to us. It's I think we three women but we are more connected to the people than when there are men in the, in the constituency. Because they are women. Women's problems women will know, can understand. That's why I'm telling if all the women get together and vote, if primary only one woman was elected you would have heard one. Got after what's a lot of us, like she stood independently. She was elected. So that means there is some rivalry between the party, because it's the party primary. Party if the all the women voted, it's more women in party also. So, there's something wrong with the public I think. If they voted the 36 women will be here. Because once we get the ticket, it is not that difficult to, if it is from a party it's quite easy. Because the party will see that they sit in the seat. That's why it's all, that's why I'm telling women has to, men also has to support. But women has to support more to the women not to the men. But, oh,



we see in a campaign, if their men's campaign there are so many women are going in campaigning for them. Not in my case. My case, only 2, only 2 men were there who are working in the computers. All are women. So, like, 40, 50 are women. I collected women. So, you in your research also said, be more closer to the women. Bring the women close and get them to vote you are there. That's it.

Chairperson speaking:

Right. So, I think we have understood, the committee has understood the aim, the objectives and methodology and everything. And we are actually eager to find out the results as well. As I have mentioned we will finalize on our side what whether we can, you know accommodate all these rules that is being told here. And then we will get back in writing to you. Right?

Kudahuvadhoo constituency member Hussain Hameed speaking:

Thank you chair. Actually, even now especially in the islands more women politicians are there than man. Because the WDC already they have five. They all are elected from the seven member, each seven member council have three participants. So, out of twelve eight are women. So, even now women participants are much more than man. You know the reality is in our political system always we are, every five years we are in the roads. This is how we come to the power. After we are spending five years in the road then we come to power. This is what the nature shows. So, that time women participants are very much less than man. That is the truth. Especially this what you called, that is what is in Male'. But in the islands, this is what happening in the islands. That's why, very good example is Asmaatha. I think this is the third term, second term. They can come. Because they are very active on the road. On the road they are very active. That's why they got the chance to win.

Central Maafannu constituency member Asma Rasheed speaking:

We were on the road and there are more women on the road. That's what I am saying get the women on the road, women inside the houses also to vote for the women. If we go to an island, we will be, some women will be cooking, they will be serving tea everything. Let the man do serving the tea and everything and women comp... Why should we be the servants to the people who are going like or entertaining them.

Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain speaking:

Thank you so much. I am very happy to see such passionate and thrilling conversation around this topic. This shows that the committee is very much interested in this topic and the findings of the report I will assume. But because we have been kind of touching based on other things that we could be doing around this topic. I just wanted to mention some of the other activities that are happening across our program which is focused on having stable and representative political parties in the Maldives. We are currently doing a different research on cost of politics in the Maldives which is looking at the financial and non-financial cost associated with being part of an election whether it's doing an entire campaign or being in office throughout the five year term as well. So, we are specifically looking at the parliamentary elections and highlighting on those gender disparities on that cost. Because we are also at the risks associated with being part of politics in the Maldives as well. So, I will be very glad to share those findings once we have the research done hopefully by the same time that this research is done as well. We also have two particular cross-party engagements where we are looking at building solidarity of women in politics across parties as well to build alliances across women politicians. And we are also looking at building male allies, men who are knowledgeable in the area of gender privilege, what it means to have those differences in power dynamics within politics and build those male allies who will work with women in politics to have those conversations. Those very difficult conversations that you are already having around representation and violence and gender in particular in politics as well. Thank you so much for your time.

Chairperson speaking:

Right. Thank you so much for coming and sharing this with us. We will today let you know on how we are going to you know, go about this. Thank you again. Thank you so much.

<u>Country Director for WFD Maldives Areej Hussain speaking:</u> Thank you, Chairperson.

> ון הכים וו ה הים הים הים. מתומים ביות פתע בתות שיות:

 ٤) دِنْ دِنْ دَنْ دَنْ دَمْ الْحَدْ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الْحَدْ ال الْحَدْ ال الْحَدْ الْحَد الْحَدْ الْحَد الْ الْحَدْ الْ الْحَدْ الْحْدْ الْحْع

مرما مروس ورماده ورمروم ورمروس ورم مردس ورم مروس وسوع وسوع ورم مع ومرم مسم وم ع دسم مرم ورم مروم مرم ورم مرد ورم مرد مروس وسوع ومرم مرم مرم مرم وم ع دسم مرم ورم مروم مرد مرد مرد مرد و مرد مرد مرم م مروم و مرد و مرد مرد روع ر ورم مرم مرم و مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد و مرد و مرد و مرد و مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد مرد



ון הכם וותו 2000 0 תחור סצית פרעבת מעצית:

