

## Statement by

## Permanent Mission of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

at the 44th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group Presentation of UPR Report by the Republic of Malta 31 January 2024

Thank you, Mr. (Vice) President,

The Bahamas thanks the delegation of the Republic of Malta for presenting its comprehensive report and commends progress made since the last review.

We positively acknowledge Malta's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights in the country, particularly through the University of Malta's training and professional development on diversity, social justice, and inclusion, and the promotion of women's participation in public life, particularly through legislative measures. Notably, Malta also mainstreams human rights internationally through continued cooperation with UN mechanisms and constructive engagement with the Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions.

In a constructive spirit, The Bahamas recommends that Malta:

- 1. Strengthen collaborations with civil society organisations and academia to ensure effective implementation of the National Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disability.
- 2. Build on efforts through the Personal, Social, Career Development (PSCD), Ethics, and Social Studies curricula, to progress the human rights culture among students.
- 3. Expand the National Commission for the Promotion of Equality's (NCPE) study to also explore the relationship between gender equality and climate change.

We wish the Republic of Malta a successful review.

I thank you.

Speaking time allotted: 1 minute and 25 seconds