ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENDA FOR CLEAN GOVERNANCE

CONTRANSPARENCY MALDIVES A Coalition for Integrity

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INTRODUCTION

While there are no shortcuts or temporary measures to address corruption, strong political commitment that echoes zero tolerance for corruption is paramount to tackling corruption from its roots. Furthermore, concrete anti-corruption measures including the development of sound legal frameworks, investment in effective integrity institutions and an enabling environment for social accountability is needed for the Maldives to overcome the scale of grand corruption entrenched in the country. Such measures are also needed to build trust in our institutions and leaders. In response to the existing political commitment the Maldives has in the international fora to counter corruption, and to the anti-corruption campaign promises of His Excellency Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, Transparency Maldives proposes the following recommendations, which offer a structured and coherent approach to overcoming the challenges of corruption.

Transparency Maldives believes that the key element in addressing systemic issues that perpetuate corruption is to address integrity deficits in existing key governance institutions in the country. This approach creates both an environment that enables public participation in a corruption-free system and presents sustainable solutions to the problems caused by corruption.

1.PROMOTE CLEAN LEADERSHIP IN KEY INSTITUTIONS

Over the last five years, the Maldives has seen the politicisation of key state institutions, especially of independent institutions. Undue parliamentary interference in the appointment and removal of members of independent institutions and the functioning of these institutions have undermined their independence in carrying out their respective mandates. It is, therefore, essential that members are appointed to key leadership positions based on quality, merit, competence, integrity and willingness to lead by example, while also ensuring the elimination of gender discrimination and increasing women's representation within leadership positions. Furthermore, ensuring strong barriers to corruption and an insistence on integrity of public officials are also key to building a clean leadership. In order to establish a sustained clean governance structure, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Reform the appointment and removal procedures for members of oversight bodies in accordance with international standards, in order to ensure their independence and capacity to carry out their respective mandates without interference or intimidation, in the following ways:
 - Amend the required prerequisites for members of independent institutions to specify that relevant education and experience is mandatory.
 - Reduce the political influence of the Executive in shortlisting candidates for parliamentary evaluation by submitting the names of all candidates in order of preference for parliamentary evaluation and consideration.
 - Increase transparency of the parliamentary committee evaluation process by publicising reasons for selecting and rejecting candidates for a position.
 - Include a grace period where the candidate does not take part in partisan political activities before appointment to a position that requires the person to be politically impartial.
 - In order to increase transparency and discourage the removal of members of independent institutions for political retribution without due process, define clauses for removal more thoroughly and include grounds on which the member's performance may be questioned or is deemed to have put the institution in disrepute.
- Take necessary steps to eliminate gender discrimination and increase women's representation at all levels of seniority in all three branches of the State, including proper enforcement and budgetary support to implement the Gender Equality Act, ensure zero tolerance for sexual harassment, and undertake affirmative action to ensure women's political representation in leadership positions.
- Establish a robust asset declaration regime via a new legislation which includes the following provisions:
 - Expand the group of public officials required to declare their assets to include Vice President; Auditor General; Information Commissioner; members of constitutional

bodies such as Human Rights Commission and Civil Service Commission; members of institutions such as Maldives Media Council, Maldives Broadcasting Commission, and National Integrity Commission; officials of state-owned enterprises; and ambassadors.

- Require public officials to submit their declarations upon entering and leaving public office.
- Standardise the asset declaration form and require all public officials to provide a wide range of information including, but not limited to, disclosure of assets, business and activities outside the jurisdiction of the Maldives, details of gifts or benefits, and assets and income information of public officials' spouses and children.
- Establish a system of verification through a central body to check and monitor the timeliness and accuracy of the declarations.
- \circ $\;$ Introduce punitive measures for non-compliance and false declarations.
- Make the asset declaration forms submitted by public officials available via a central platform that the public can easily access.
- Ensure that public officials are held accountable for corruptly accumulated wealth by amending the Penal Code to include criminalisation of illicit enrichment.
- Establish a comprehensive asset recovery regime to ensure that the assets stolen by public officials are returned to the Maldivian people. The asset recovery regime should include proactive disclosure by the competent authorities of information on recovered assets to ensure a high level of transparency around successful recovery processes, especially concerning assets related to corruption cases.

2. DEVELOP PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES TO HOLD STATE INSTITUTIONS TO ACCOUNT

Although the Maldivian governance system is a presidential system, the Constitution of Maldives provides the Parliament with wide ranging powers, including holding the Executive to account. In addition to the legislative authority of the Parliament, it is tasked with holding state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and independent institutions and bodies to account, and impeachment of the president, as well as removal of judges. The deterioration of the Parliament as an institution in the past few years facilitated increasing authoritarianism, impunity for the corrupt, and the derailment of the democratisation process.

The central role of the Parliament in the governance system mean that the institution is key to putting the Maldives back on a democratic path. To re-establish good governance and human rights principles, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Hold SOEs to account to prevent:
 - $\circ~$ Fraud, embezzlement and wastage of resources.
 - The use of SOEs as political party campaign tools.
 - \circ $\,$ Mismanagement of SOEs resulting in wastage and cronyism.
 - \circ Politicisation of key state institutions such as the Public Service Media. \square
- Establish sound financial and budgetary procedures to prevent Executive interference and ensure financial independence of oversight institutions, including the ACC and HRCM.
- Amend parliamentary regulations and standing orders to make deliberations mandatory for petitions with more than 500 signatories.
- Develop parliamentary committees to act as a check against Executive and Judicial overreach, and to facilitate the functions of key state institutions.
- Establish offices for parliamentary committees and MPs to enhance citizen participation in parliamentary processes.

3. ENSURE THE INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY

Various studies on the Maldivian judiciary indicate the institution as one of the most corrupt institutions in the country. The UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers has noted that the politicised nature of the judiciary has and continues to affect the delivery of justice in the Maldives. Given that grand corruption is endemic in the country, the lack of an independent judiciary raises serious concerns about judges' ability to prosecute cases of corruption, especially those involving high-level public officials. Furthermore, the pivotal role that the judiciary plays in upholding justice makes its prestige and conduct paramount in building public trust in the governance system. Having an objective and transparent process to deliver justice is extremely important and a key step in promoting good governance. Therefore, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Establish and enforce a code of conduct for judges and for criminal proceedings.
- Review the composition of the Judicial Service Commission to minimise the influence of sitting judges and protect the independence of the judiciary from political influence.
- Ensure that the proceedings of the Judicial Service Commission are more transparent, including making available minutes of meetings and decisions.
- Enforce the qualification and experience requirements for judges as stipulated in legislation.
- Ensure that professionalism, personal integrity and gender diversity, are included as criteria in appointing members to the Supreme Court.
- Strengthen case management systems in the courts by including measures for safe archiving, coordination between departments, and ease of access to information for those seeking the services of the Judiciary. The case management system should be made uniform throughout the country for which allocation of appropriate resources and capacity-building is necessary.
- Establish training and continuing legal education for judges and lawyers on legal developments, judicial processes, judicial ethics, gender sensitivity and protection of human rights under both Maldivian and international law, in order to ensure uniform qualifications for the judiciary in compliance with international standards.

4. ENSURE INDEPENDENCE OF COMMISSIONS TO COUNTER CORRUPTION

4.1 ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

An independent and effective Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is essential to fighting corruption in the Maldives. Assessments of the ACC raise concerns about the performance and effectiveness of the ACC in tackling corruption in the Maldives. A key priority should be to address the concerns about the performance of ACC including its mandate, independence, competency, and collaboration framework. Revisions of the Prohibition and Prevention of Corruption Act and the Anti-Corruption Act must be initiated to address these concerns in-line with best practices and principles as outlined in the UN Convention against Corruption and the Jakarta Principles. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Evaluate the performance of the ACC and its Commissioners by the Parliamentary Committee on Independent Institutions mandated with the task.
- Ensure that the independence of the ACC and protect it from disestablishment or undue influence, particularly when investigating high profile cases.
- Invest in the competency and capacity of the ACC staff, particularly strengthening their investigative capacity to look into financial crimes.
- Strengthen the mandate of the ACC on prevention, education and awareness, and widen its collaboration with civil society, private sector and external bodies.
- Establish a cross-institutional Anti-Corruption Committee or Council including the ACC, Information Commissioner's Office, Auditor General's Office and the Prosecutor General's Office.
- Establish an anti-corruption deputy portfolio under the Prosecutor General's Office to strengthen collaboration between the two bodies.

4.2 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE MALDIVES

Since its inception in 2006, the work of Human Rights Commission of the Maldives (HRCM) has been constantly undermined by political appointment of members who have failed to function independently as well as a lack of proper financial independence to ensure an unbiased administration. The powers of the Commission has also been weakened by the Supreme Court guidelines of 2015 that precludes the independent functioning of its international human rights obligation including but not limited to preparing shadow reports and reporting to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The Commission should be able to exist and function in accordance with the Paris Principles, the key document for the functioning of National Human Rights Institutions, including proper pluralism in nomination as well as functioning. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Conduct a review of judicial decisions that undermine the constitutional framework, with the view to repeal barriers to institutional independence such as the 11-point Supreme Court guideline directed towards the HRCM.
- Uphold the tenets of the Paris Principles in the functioning of the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives.
- Ensure proper transparency and proactive publicising of the work of the Commission including the publication of the National Inquiry on Access to Education for Children with Disabilities report.
- Ensure pluralism both in function and nomination of members for it to properly be representative of the society it serves.
- Establish a clearly defined and broad mandate including the protection and promotion of universal human rights in addition to the rights enshrined in the Constitution.
- Allow for the proper independent functioning of the National Preventive Mechanism to allow for unannounced visits to state institutions where people are deprived of their liberty.
- Ensure the proper implementation of the Anti-Torture Act by increasing the efficiency of investigating cases of torture of people under state detention and places where people are deprived of their liberty.

4.3 INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Providing citizens with access to information about public sector conduct has proved instrumental in enhancing trust in the government. Effective right to information laws strengthen transparency and improve government effectiveness by making public officials and governments more accountable to their citizens. The implementation of the right to information law can be an effective tool in empowering grassroot communities and improving governance system efficiency and transparency at all levels. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Ensure that the quality of the right to information regulations and procedures are in-line with international best practice, including definitions, mandatory disclosure and limits to information protected as state secrets.
- Ensure that the right to information is fully implemented in accordance with the Right to Information Act, and especially ensure that:
 - Those requesting information are only required to provide details necessary for identifying and delivering the information.
 - A harm test is applied to all exceptions, so that information is refused only in situations where disclosure poses a risk of actual harm to a protected interest.
 - The mandatory public interest override is exercised by all public information officers so that information must be disclosed where there is in the overall public interest.

4.4 ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Article 4 of the Constitution of the Maldives stipulates that "all the powers of the State of Maldives are derived from, and remain with, the citizens". An election is one of the key democratic process that protects this principle. An election management body that is non-partisan, independent and technically capable is essential to ensuring the integrity of electoral processes. Since the country's first-ever multi-party presidential election in 2008, the Elections Commission has faced a number of challenges including judicial interference in electoral processes, and more recently, a high level of politicisation. To maintain the integrity of the electoral processes, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Conduct a review of judicial decisions that undermine the constitutional framework, with the view to repeal barriers to institutional independence such as the 16-point Supreme Court guideline directed towards the Elections Commission.
- Limit the mandate of the Elections Commission to regulate political parties, in particular the power to invalidate congress meetings, amendments to party charter and removal of individuals from political party register.
- Tackle vote buying by amending the legal framework to invalidate ballots with markings other than the check mark used to indicate the choice of the voter.

5. ESTABLISH FREEDOM OF MEDIA

The freedom of media has steadily deteriorated in the Maldives by allowing impunity for individuals, groups and state institutions to intimidate, threaten and even physically attack media personnel and stations. The widespread political narrative has undermined the safety and functionality of media stations critical of the government. In addition, the Public Service Media (PSM) has been completely taken over by the government, undermining the purpose envisaged in the legal framework governing the organisation. Broadcasting Commission of the Maldives has also been used as a tool to intimidate media critical of the government by placing exorbitant fines upon them. In order to ensure media freedom, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Repeal the Anti-Defamation Act to ensure the constitutionally guaranteed rights of the freedom of expression.
- Provide redress for the attacks on specific media stations and personnel, and allow for proper legal frameworks that enable the work of an independent media free from political intimidation.
- Amend the Public Service Media Act to allow for a non-partisan and independent public service media that is allowed to function as a social service rather than a political tool.
- Amend the Maldives Broadcasting Commission Act to disallow the Commission from having the authority to intimidate media organisations and limit the regulatory powers of the Commission to allow for a proper free media.

6. ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT, EFFECTIVE AND MERIT-BASED PUBLIC SERVICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT REGIME

6.1 PUBLIC SERVICE

The public sector is a key component of a national integrity system. Given the direct interaction the sector has with the public, its levels of transparency, accountability, effectiveness and overall management strongly influences perception of honesty and quality of services from the government. A well established, independent and professional civil and public sector is a key element of a stable society. Furthermore, the public sector holds many key mechanisms in countering corruption. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Strengthen internal oversight mechanisms within the civil service and ensure the implementation of recommendations made by the Auditor General's Office in its audit reports.
- Provide incentives and legal protection for whistleblowers by introducing a whistleblower protection legislation that applies to the public and private sectors.
- Establish greater collaborative efforts with other institutions, conduct programmes to raise public awareness, and increase public knowledge of any efforts undertaken within civil service to combat corruption.
- Ensure that all civil servants undergo a compulsory anti-corruption and good governance training module as part of their induction and periodic refresher trainings conducted by the Civil Service Training Institute.
- Empower the National Integrity Commission (NIC) to ensure that their recommendations on disciplining police officers and customs officers who are in violation of code of conduct are implemented.

6.2 MALDIVES POLICE SERVICE

An effective police force is fundamental to curbing corruption and promoting justice and good governance. A well respected police force can uphold public trust in democratic governance systems and contribute to proactive citizen engagement in the fight against corruption. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Ensure that the police is held accountable democratically to the public and not to the Executive, to prevent impunity and politicisation of the police service.
- Establish proper guidelines for the use of force in public order situations in accordance with international best practices with regards to international human rights norms and practices.
- Increase support to the ACC, the mandated body to investigate cases of bribery and corruption, instead of selectively investigating such cases outside their mandate.
- Increase the effectiveness of internal and external mechanisms in picking up code of conduct breaches within the police service.

7. IMPROVE INTEGRITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN REVENUE COLLECTION

The politicisation of tax collection institutions such as Maldives Inland Revenue Authority (MIRA) has allowed the government to selectively target businesses and individuals. Further, the bypassing of the checks and balances of these institutions as evidenced by MIRA's refusal to cooperate in the Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Company (MMPRC) scandal, allow impunity for corrupt activities. Therefore, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Create a sound regulatory environment with a merit-based human resource management system, including merit-based hiring, regular staff rotation schemes to monitor staff living beyond their means.
- Ensure complete transparency of the taxation process including publicising of the negative list of goods and services for the Withholding Tax and conducting an audit of the Fine Relief mechanism of MIRA.
- Establish a tenure of the Commissioner of Taxation to ensure institutional integrity of MIRA.
- Review the discretionary powers of the Commissioner General of Taxation, including:
 - $\circ \quad \mbox{Fine relief.}$
 - The practise of amending the tax regulations via amendments to the regulation that are not subjected to review by the MIRA Board of Directors.
 - The practise of overriding the tax regulations via tax rulings, which are not subject to review by MIRA Board, and d) the practise of using circulars to enforce policies.

8. ENSURE PROCUREMENT TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN CONTRACTING

Open contracting introduces norms and practices for increased disclosure and participation in public contracting including tendering, performance and completion. In principle, it encompasses all public contracting including contracts funded by combinations of public, private and donor sources, thereby closing avenues for corruption. Open contracting is crucial in winning public confidence in governance by assuring best value for money for taxpayers' contribution. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Repeal the 11th Revision to the Public Finance Regulations that allow the Cabinet to award megaprojects without a bidding process, and revert back to open bidding process.
- Publish selection criteria and details of the award method in a timely manner before the procurement process commences. If an open, competitive tendering process is not used, the relevant authority should explain the rationale publicly.
- Increase transparency in procurement by publishing all procurement notices, awards, and information on the execution, performance and completion of awarded contracts, including the beneficial ownership of any non-public bidding companies as well as disclosing the contract itself and associated annexes or schedules, on a central website.
- Ensure independent monitoring of sensitive or important government procurements and provide for public monitoring and consultation on major projects.
- Enact an e-governance law to facilitate e-procurement, and prepare an implementation strategy and build the capacity of relevant officials for effective implementation of an e-procurement system.
- Initiate steps to join the Open Government Partnership (OGP) to make the government more open, accountable and responsive to citizens.

9. ENGAGE CIVIL SOCIETY AND ADOPT MEASURES TO IMPROVE ITS PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE

Civil society is a key partner of the Government of Maldives in fighting corruption. Substantive reforms need to be undertaken in the regulatory arena to begin the process of opening civic space and ensuring that civil society organisations (CSOs) can play a pivotal role in democratic reform and fighting corruption. The engagement of CSOs and the public at large in the state building process will lead to greater social accountability in the public sector, and a greater level of adherence to transparency standards. The inclusion of CSOs in the policy process is crucial to ensure that there is a greater diversity of voices, particularly of vulnerable groups, in decision-making processes. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Amend the Associations Act and Regulation on Associations to be in-line with the Constitution and the international conventions the Maldives is party to, with a focus on:
 - Decriminalising unregistered associations.
 - \circ $\;$ Removing the restrictions placed on obtaining foreign funding.
 - Ensuring that the Registrar of Associations is not a political appointee and does not have extensive discretionary powers.
- Mainstream civil society participation in the policy process by providing timely and regular communication about policymaking processes and opportunities for civil society to engage in them, and by ensuring that civil society representatives are given equal voice alongside government representatives.
- Integrate CSO monitoring of government anti-corruption action plans as an integral part and publicise periodic progress reports.

10. INCULCATE A CULTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

Since the enactment of the 2008 Constitution with a comprehensive bill of rights, the Maldives has seen a constant derogation of human rights principles and the breakdown of rule of law in the Maldives. The fundamental human rights enshrined in the Constitution have been restricted for political opportunism and the constitutional framework has also been altered through the parliament for the purposes of short-term political gain. The civic space has been speedily closing with little avenues for human rights defenders and civil society organisations to engage in public discourse about human rights and rule of law. Marginalised groups continue to face blatant discrimination both as a result of government policy as well as due to the lack of mechanisms to counteract sexism and xenophobia. In addition, the State has had an appalling record in reporting to the key human rights treaty bodies as well as a conspicuous gap in implementing the recommendations suggested through the UPR process. Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Ensure that all laws and government practices comply with international human rights standards.
- Repeal the amendment and related regulations to the Freedom of Assembly Act to ensure the constitutionally guaranteed rights of the freedom of expression and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.
- Repeal the amendment to the Political Party Act to ensure that the right to participate as enshrined in the Constitution as well as Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) are fully realised.
- Comply with the international obligation under ICCPR to repeal the death penalty and immediately reinstate the moratorium on capital punishment.
- Harmonise local legislations with the Convention on People with Disabilities to fully allow for their participation in all facets of public life.
- Resolve the backlog in treaty body reporting and immediately functionalise the Universal Periodic Review Standing Committee to fully realise the recommendations of the UPR in Maldives.
- Revisit and revise the National Human Rights Action Plan and initiate a process to inculcate the principles enshrined in it into national policy.
- Remove barriers to political participation by lowering the mandatory 10,000 membership requirement for political parties.

- Provide immediate redress to survivors of torture, hold perpetrators responsible for the abuse of human rights to account, and establish means to end impunity amongst law enforcement authorities whenever the fundamental rights of people are trampled upon, particularly in cases of torture in prisons and state institutions where people are deprived of their freedom and are subject to the use of excessive force by the police.
- Establish an effective means of addressing the threats to human rights defenders.
- Ensure a credible, competent and transparent investigation of the murders of Dr. Afrasheem Ali and Yameen Rasheed, and the abduction of Ahmed Rilwan.
- Ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families, and repeal discriminatory laws and policies relating to migrant workers to ensure an end to the culture of xenophobia and discrimination in the Maldives.
- Establish a legal framework for the creation of unions with legal protection and empowerment to be able to function effectively as a union including collective bargaining.
- Determine an acceptable living wage that will allow workers, including migrant workers, a dignified life in the country.

11. ENSURE POLITICAL FINANCE TRANSPARENCY

While a number of provisions exist in the Constitution regarding the transparency and enforcement of political finance transparency, these measures are largely ineffective for a number of reasons. In particular, the lack of income tax and asset declaration regimes, the non-enforcement of existing provisions and the politicisation of institutions mean that money interests are able to subvert democratic processes. To prevent vested interests subverting public interest, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Empower the independent state institutions, including Elections Commission, Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Auditor General to implement a political finance transparency regime, including:
 - Enforcement of campaign finance limits, and auditing and publicisation of campaign finance reports.
 - Closing loopholes in the political finance reporting by clarifying reporting requirements for in-kind donations, donations by third parties, and expenses on behalf of own political party.
 - Establish mechanisms for reviewing the reports submitted by political parties and electoral candidates.
 - Proactively disseminate mandatory financial reports to the public in an easily accessible form and in a timely manner.
- Decrease the spending limit of MVR 2,000 per constituent as the current limit allows money interests to disproportionately affect elections.
- Establish an income tax regime as a mechanism to prevent and identify cases of illicit enrichment and bribery.

12. PROMOTE DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION

Article 230 of the Constitution of the Maldives stipulates that the "administrative divisions of the Maldives shall be administered decentrally". The Constitution was adopted in 2008 following a deliberative process as part of the democratisation process. However, successive governments' increased centralisation by politicising the Local Government Authority (LGA) and removing representation of island communities from the LGA Board. Additionally, the governments failed to implement fiscal decentralisation, and further weakened the decentralisation framework by prioritising existing legal provisions that contravene the Decentralisation Act. To move towards a more inclusive, participatory, transparent and accountable local governance system, Transparency Maldives recommends that the Government of Maldives:

- Review and amend laws that contravene the Decentralisation Act.
- Implement fiscal decentralisation to provide consistent financial resources and enable local councils to plan and conduct their own development activities in-line with a national development plan.
- Facilitate island community participation in the the policymaking process, in particular, the policies and development programs that directly affect the respective communities. This may be achieved by, but is not limited to, the forming of an association of councils.
- Ensure that development projects take into account climate vulnerability by ensuring the independence of the Environmental Protection Agency, and conducting and implementing sound environmental impact assessment procedures.
- Reform LGA to facilitate the functions of local councils and provide training to build the capacity of councillors to address community governance and development challenges, as originally envisioned in the Decentralisation Act.
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of the councils with regard to resources in their jurisdiction, including land, lagoons and beaches.

CONCLUSION

Transparency Maldives is committed to supporting the efforts of His Excellency Ibrahim Mohamed Solih and his Government in their fight against corruption, promoting good governance and inculcating a culture of human rights. Transparency Maldives believes that following the recommendations laid out above will provide the first key steps in this endeavour. As the implementation of these recommendations takes place, the situation may change and new challenges may arise. However, strong political will, commitment and collaboration will pave way to address these challenges in our fight against corruption in the Maldives.

To this end, Transparency Maldives is willing to engage with the Government, by (a) providing technical support; (b) facilitating a common national platform of anti-corruption actors in the Maldives with the participation of regional and international actors; and (c) monitoring the progress of anti-corruption commitments and actions made by the Government of Maldives and offering advice accordingly.

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