



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Note No. 185/15/MISS/2015

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of the Member States to the United Nations Office and International Organizations in Geneva and has the honour to enclose herewith an Information Note dated 25 June 2015 from the Government of Maldives.

The Permanent Mission would appreciate it if the Note can be brought to the attention of the Head of Mission / concerned officials at the earliest.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Member States to the United Nations Office and International Organizations in Geneva, the assurances of its highest consideration.



Permanent Missions of the Member States to the United Nations Office and International
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Information Brief on the Maldives

Date: 25 June 2015

The opposition MDP decides to join Political Dialogue

The Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) has decided to enter the ongoing political dialogue with the Government and excluded former president Mohamed Nasheed from its delegation. The decision was taken last night by the Party's Council. Mr. Nasheed's name was among the list of members submitted to represent MDP in the political dialogue initiated by His Excellency President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom last month. Mr Nasheed is currently serving a 13-year jail sentence for the abduction/kidnapping of the Chief Judge of the Criminal Court in 2012.

MDP submitted to the Government the names of its Chairperson Mr. Ali Waheed and Leader of its Parliamentary Group Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Solih to take part in the political dialogue.

Previously the Party had refused to participate in the Political Dialogue and demanded that the Government frees Mr Nasheed from prison before the Party could join the talks.

MDP is the second political party to enter into dialogue with the Government. Jumhooree party and the Government has held two rounds of discussions over the last few weeks.

The Islamic religious party, Adhaalath Party, is yet to enter the ongoing dialogue. Similar to the MDP, Adhaalath Party has also preconditioned the inclusion of its leader Sheikh Imran Abdullah as part of its team. However, Sheikh Imran remains in pre-trial detention as the Prosecutor

General has pressed charges against him for his role in inciting violence in the May Day protest that took place on 1 May 2015.

The Political Dialogue is aimed at:

1. Seeking solutions within the perimeters of the Maldivian legal system to resolve existing political tensions and differences of opinion towards establishing political reconciliation, and to explore avenues to strengthen national solidarity;
2. Determining measures needed to further improve the constitutional, legislative and judicial models within the country, for the purpose of strengthening the Maldivian democratic system based on our own past experiences and international best practices;
3. Encouraging the cooperation of all political actors within the country towards the nation building process, and in securing the social and economic development of all Maldivian citizens.

Invitation to the UN

On 23 June 2015, President Yameen invited the United Nations to send a team of experts to the Maldives to assist the Government in diffusing political tensions in the country through the ongoing political dialogue process. The President extended the invitation in a phone call with UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-Moon. During the phone call, the President briefed the Secretary General on the Government initiated political dialogue and had informed that the opportunity was still open for MDP to participate without any preconditions.
