







بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



President  
Republic of Maldives


22 August 2022

Excellency,

I wish to refer to our meeting at the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June this year.

As agreed during our discussions, in view of the impending conclusion of ITLOS proceedings regarding the maritime boundary between the Maldives and the Chagos Archipelago, the Maldives has decided to change its position with regard to the United Nations General Assembly Resolution entitled "Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965". As assured to you during our meeting, the Maldives will vote "yes" to the resolution this year.

As Your Excellency would be aware, the Maldives has always been in support of decolonisation and ensuring the right of peoples to self-determination. Our history at the United Nations is evidence of this fact. Our earlier position was based on Mauritius' objection to Maldives' July 2010 submission to the Commission on The Limits of The Continental Shelf ("CLCS") as indicated by our explanation of vote before the general assembly. We hope that this matter may now be resolved and our change in position will further demonstrate our continued support for decolonisation and our solidarity with the Republic of Mauritius.

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I wish to emphasize that our change in position is entirely without prejudice to the legal position taken by Maldives at the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and the Submission made by the Maldives to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in 2010, and the Maldives will provide an explanation of vote to this effect.

Excellency, should you visit Chagos by undertaking travel through Maldives, my government remains ready to welcome you and provide every assistance. I look forward to welcoming and assisting you in this regard.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ibrahim Mohamed Solih', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

His Excellency Pravind Kumar Jugnauth  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius,  
Port Louis.