Speech of His Excellency Dr. Mohammed bin Saif Al Kuwari
(Deputy Chairperson of the National Human Rights Committee [NHRC])
at the Seventh Intersessional Meeting on Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda
Geneva – February 11, 2025
Speech Duration (2 minutes)

Dear colleagues,

We are here today to emphasize once again that a human rights and gender equality approach will play a critical role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and promoting sustainable economic productivity for all. This requires facilitating women's participation in the labor force, eliminating discriminatory social norms, enhancing social security coverage for maternity and childcare benefits to include women who are working in the informal sector, and implementing compulsory, women-focused measures in public budgets.

We encourage the adoption of the concept of human dignity as the minimum standard for measures taken to achieve human rights and sustainable development, rather than merely relying on economic growth as the sole indicator. We also recognize the importance of incorporating the recommendations of international and regional human rights bodies into lending conditions, prioritizing public spending on smart investments that will fund Sustainable Development Goals, and promoting cultural transformation in support of entrepreneurship, a green knowledge economy, and issues of global concern, such as climate change and sustainable development. Technology also helps to enhance accountability, transparency, and financial management governance. In addition to that, it helps build public trust and provides development opportunities for marginalized groups.

I wish you all a fruitful discussion. Thank you.