**57th Session of the UN Human Rights Council – Enhanced ID on Nuclear Legacy in the Marshall Islands**

**4th October 2024**

Statement by H.E. Christopher Grima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN, Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

Malta aligns itself with the statement by the European Union.

We thank the Office for its report mandated by HRC Resolution51/35 which we had co-sponsored.

Malta has a long-established position on nuclear weapons and the impact of such weapons testing on life and the environment. We continue to believe that such weapons, their testing or even more so their use, in any circumstance, leave such a severe and wide-ranging impact on every aspect of life that any use far outweighs any possible military or strategic gain.

The report provides detailed information on the severe impact to life, health, a clean and healthy environment, and other considerations on the people of the Marshall Islands. Nuclear testing’s impact remains a formidable challenge to overcome. The report includes several recommendations, and in this connection, we support continued OHCHR technical assistance and capacity building to the Marshall Islands.

Thank you.