



## EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

January 2025  
Key Highlights

### Ambassador Ghafoor Attends the 60th Official U.S. Presidential Inauguration



20 January 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the Swearing-in Ceremony and Presidential Inauguration of President Donald J. Trump at the U.S. Capitol, along with Chiefs of Mission, senior U.S. officials, and dignitaries from around the world. The ceremony marked the official beginning of President Trump's second term, featuring the administration of the oath of office, the inaugural address, and a formal transition of power.

Following the inauguration, the Ambassador participated in the Diplomatic Corps Reception at Blair House, the President's official guest house.

Later in the day, as part of the official inauguration events, the Ambassador attended the indoor Inaugural Parade held at Capital One Arena in honor of the newly sworn-in President and Vice President.



# Ambassador Ghafoor Attends State Funeral of Former President Jimmy Carter

*07 and 09 January 2025, Washington, D.C.;* Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the Lying in State Ceremony at the United States Capitol and the State Funeral of Former President Jimmy Carter at the Washington National Cathedral. The ceremonies gathered Chiefs of Mission, senior



U.S. government officials, members of Congress, and dignitaries from around the world to honor the life and legacy of the 39th President of the United States.

The Lying in State Ceremony at the U.S. Capitol included a formal procession and a moment of reflection as attendees paid tribute to President Carter's contributions to global diplomacy and humanitarian efforts.

## Ambassador Attends U.S. Armed Forces Farewell Tribute in Honor of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr



*16 January 2025, Washington, D.C.;* Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the Armed Forces Farewell Tribute in honor of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. at Conmy Hall, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. The event, hosted by U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, brought together Chiefs of Mission, senior U.S. government officials, and military leaders to pay tribute to President Biden's leadership and service.

The tribute featured formal military honors and remarks highlighting President Biden's contributions to national security and international diplomacy. Attendees gathered to recognize his tenure as Commander-in-Chief and his commitment to strengthening global partnerships.

Attendees included senior members of the U.S. Department of State, Department of Defense, and the diplomatic corps.

## Assistant Secretary, Donal Lu visits the Embassy of Maldives



*23 January 2025, Washington, D.C.;* Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed met with Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs, Donald Lu, at the Embassy of the Maldives.

During the meeting, Ambassador Ghafoor expressed appreciation for Assistant Secretary Lu's contributions to strengthening Maldives-U.S. relations during his tenure at the State Department. He highlighted Assistant Secretary Lu's instrumental role in advancing bilateral cooperation and fostering closer diplomatic ties between the two nations in recent years.

Ambassador Ghafoor also thanked Assistant Secretary Lu for his support in establishing the Maldives Embassy in Washington, D.C.

## Embassy Attends the Heritage Foundation Briefing on Top Foreign Policy Issues for 2025

23 January 2025, Washington, D.C.; Counsellor Zeena Didi attended a diplomatic briefing hosted by The Heritage Foundation on "A Lightning Look at Top Foreign Policy Issues in 2025." The session brought together embassy representatives, military attachés, and foreign policy experts to discuss key geopolitical challenges and strategic priorities for the United States and its allies in the coming year.

The briefing featured insights from The Heritage Foundation's senior policy experts, covering numerous critical areas, and provided concise analyses of emerging global issues, followed by an interactive discussion with attendees.

## Ambassador Meets with R. André De Rosa, CEO & Board Chair of Lamplighter Energy at the Embassy of Maldives



23 January 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed met with R. André De Rosa, CEO & Board Chair of Lamplighter Energy, at the Embassy of Maldives to discuss potential collaboration in renewable energy, energy storage, and water treatment systems. The meeting focused on exploring opportunities for sustainable development and clean energy solutions in the Maldives.

# The Embassy Attends Fireside Chat on the 2025 U.S. Presidential Transition

28 January 2025, Washington, D.C.; Counsellor Zeena Didi attended a fireside chat on the 2025 U.S. Presidential Transition, co-organized by the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines and the Executive Council on Diplomacy (ECD). The event brought together diplomats and policy experts to discuss the implications of the new U.S. administration on global affairs.



Brookings Institution experts Michael O'Hanlon and Kathryn Dunn Tenpas provided insights into transition procedures, presidential appointments, and expected foreign policy priorities, particularly regarding Europe and the Indo-Pacific. The discussion allowed diplomats, ambassadors, and business leaders to engage with the speakers on key issues shaping international relations under the new administration.

## Other Engagements



23 January 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the Royal Thai Armed Forces Day 2025 celebration hosted by the Royal Thai Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Maldives and Thailand established diplomatic relations in 1979.



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