LEXISNEXIS ASIA PACIFIC IS PARTNERING WITH THE
Attorney General’s Office (AGO) in the Maldives to consolidate,
translate, and publish the laws of Maldives and make them available
in both printed and online format. The Maldives government had
been struggling to properly consolidate, annotate, and make these
laws widely available to their citizens and to the world at large.
Through a partnership with LexisNexis, making the laws accessible
and consumable both to Maldivian citizens and to the rest of the
world is now a reality. In addition, programs are in place to train the
AGO on the skills required to do so in future and support efforts to
make this sustainable.

The project entails publishing laws up to 2015 in their national
language, Dhivehi, in the printed format, translating these into
English, and creating a bilingual online legal research website to
make the laws easy to access, research, understand, and apply.
The first printed binders containing the consolidated laws in Dhivehi
were made available at a launch in 2015 in the capital city of Male.
The event was attended by officers from the AGO, representatives
from the Maldives President’s Office, and members of the country’s
legal fraternity. The Attorney General expressed his gratitude to
LexisNexis for supporting this important effort.

LexisNexis conducted the first of a series of training and knowledge
sharing workshops in the Kuala Lumpur office as part of the Rule
of Law initiative in the Maldives. The Counsel General and State
Attorney from the Attorney General’s Office, Maldives, participated
in the workshop. The training included legislation consolidation and
structure to support sustainable maintenance of legislation beyond
2015. The goal is to equip participants with the knowledge required
to sustain the work that LexisNexis will complete in early 2016. The
team also facilitated introductions between the Maldives Attorney
General’s Office and the Malaysian Attorney General’s Chambers,
Parliamentary Draftsman, and the judiciary. As a result, partnerships
were built that will further strengthen support for legislative drafting
within the Maldives.

The AGO Maldives team also conducted the first User Acceptance
Test (UAT) on “Lexis Maldives,” the online legal research website
containing the laws of Maldives in both Dhivehi and English.
Testing of the website’s functionality was successful, bringing
excitement and hope for the long-term continuation of this
initiative in the Maldives.

For the first time in the history of the Republic of Maldives,
LexisNexis is consolidating, updating, and indexing laws in the country.