STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON ARGENTINA ON 22 OCTOBER 2012

(2mins)

Madam President,

Singapore notes the high literary rate and life expectancy of Argentinians resulting from the continued efforts and investments by the Government in promoting education and enhancing the public health care system.

Singapore also notes the progress in the empowerment of women in Argentina, reflected in the increased number of women taking up leadership positions in business and public offices. The Government's efforts to provide a safe living and working environment for women included the passage of a comprehensive law in 2009 to strengthen the legislative framework to enhance protection and deter violence against women. Singapore **recommends** that Argentina continues to improve its domestic framework for the empowerment of women.

Argentina has taken concrete steps to address human trafficking. We note the recent enactment of laws in Argentina to provide remedies to victims of trafficking and prevent human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Singapore recommends that Argentina continues its efforts in combating human trafficking, especially of women and children.

In conclusion, we join the many friends of Argentina in wishing the country success.