

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE  
DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)  
WORKING GROUP SESSION ON MALI ON 22  
JANUARY 2013**

**[Speaking time: 1 min 38s]**

Mr President,

Singapore expresses its appreciation to the delegation of Mali for its national report and participation in the UPR.

We are deeply concerned about the deteriorating situation in Mali, and hope that the conflict will be resolved expeditiously. We support the efforts by the international community in helping Mali to combat terrorism and to counter attempts to overthrow its legitimate government.

Without political stability, there can be no law and order. The rule of law is fundamental for the protection and promotion of human rights. There have been some legislative changes in Mali over the last few years, including the amendment to its constitution and strengthening of the domestic legal framework. We **recommend** that Mali continues to undertake efforts to enhance the rule of law to ensure that the rights of its people are better protected.

We note the efforts of the Government in providing access to education and improving the quality of the schools including the setting up of centres focusing on pedagogy for basic education. Education and skill training are needed so that the people are better able to realise their full potential and contribute towards economic and social development. We **recommend** that Mali, with support from the international community, continues to strengthen its education system, including vocational training.

In conclusion, we join the many friends of Mali in wishing the country well.

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