

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE  
DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)  
WORKING GROUP SESSION ON THE UNITED ARAB  
EMIRATES (UAE) ON 28 JAN 2013**

[Speaking time: 1 min 23 s]

Mr President,

1 Singapore takes positive note of the continued efforts by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the protection of human rights. In particular, we note its achievement in promoting gender equality. The UAE enjoys a high Gender Equality Index published by the World Economic Forum. In addition to high enrolment rates of girls in schools and universities, the Cabinet has since last December made it compulsory for corporations and government agencies to include women in their boards of directors. Singapore **recommends** that the UAE continues its effort to promote gender equality and eliminate discrimination against women and girls.

2 Singapore also notes the progress made by the UAE in combating human trafficking. It has set up a National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking and developed a comprehensive strategy against this scourge. Training workshops were conducted for law enforcement officers to improve their capacities to counter human trafficking. There are remedies, counselling and protection for victims of trafficking. Singapore **recommends** that the UAE continues to strengthen its national institutions to combat human trafficking.

3 Singapore joins the other friends of UAE in wishing it success.