

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

[Speaking time: 1min 25s]

Mr President,

Singapore expresses its appreciation to the delegation of Burkina Faso for its presentation and takes note of the Government's commitment to promote the enjoyment of human rights of its people. In particular, we note the Government's emphasis on promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women as reflected in the adoption of the national gender policy in 2009. Legislation has also been passed to protect women's right to land ownership and participation in elections. Singapore **recommends** that Burkina Faso continues its efforts to eliminate discrimination against women and promote gender equality.

Burkina Faso has also implemented various measures to combat trafficking in persons, particularly children. We note the formation of a multisectoral committee on this issue and the establishment of transit centres in various parts of the country to provide support to children who are victims of trafficking. We also note that the Government has set up of a central authority so that the trafficking cases would be handled effectively. Singapore **recommends** that Burkina Faso, in cooperation with UNICEF and relevant UN agencies, continues its efforts to combat trafficking in persons and child abduction.

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