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PR TAN YEE WOAN

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE
DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)
WORKING GROUP SESSION ON CUBA ON 1 MAY 2013**
[Speaking time: 51s]

Mr President,

Singapore notes the significant strides made by Cuba in promoting the enjoyment of human rights especially in the areas of education and health. Cuba was ranked fourteenth on the 2011 UNESCO Education for all Development index and has one of the lowest maternal mortality in the world in 2012. Singapore **recommends** that Cuba continues to ensure universal access to quality education for all and to maintain, if not improve, its healthcare system to the continued benefit of its people.

Cuba's success in the empowerment of women is reflected in the high number of female university graduates and proportion of women parliamentarians in its National Assembly. Women are holding more than 40 per cent of management posts and representing more than 60 per cent of its technical and professional workforce. Singapore **recommends** that Cuba continues to promote gender equality to ensure a level-playing field for women in all wards of the society.

Finally, Singapore thanks the active participation of the Cuban delegation led by His Excellency Bruno Eduardo Rodríguez Parrilla in the UPR and joins the many friends of Cuba in wishing it success.

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