

STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON BELIZE ON 28 OCTOBER 2013 [Speaking time:]

Mr President,

- Singapore welcomes the delegation of Belize to the UPR session. We also congratulate it for the excellent presentation which has highlighted Belize's progress in promoting and protecting the human rights of its people. In particular, we note the various measures by the Government on the rights of older persons. These include the Non-Contributory Pension and Food Pantry programmes supported by the Government to enhance the social protection for older persons, as well as improvements in access to health care facitities for the elderly. We also note that the National Council for the Aging has cooperated with the UN Population Fund to conduct a situation analysis in 2010 on the constraints and challenges faced by older persons. Singapore **recommends** that Belize continues its efforts to protect and promote the enjoyment of human rights of the older persons.
- Singapore also takes positive note of Belize's efforts in tackling the challenges posed by HIV/AIDS, including the provision of universal access to antiretroviral treatment to people with HIV/AIDS infection. We note the significant decrease in the number of new HIV/AIDS infections since 2009. We also note the Government's efforts in reducing stigma against persons with HIV/AIDS through education and prevention campaigns. Singapore **recommends** that Belize continues its efforts in tackling HIV/AIDS.
- 4 Singapore joins the other friends of Belize in wishing it success in promoting human rights.