STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ON 25 OCTOBER 2013

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Central African Republic and commends it for its constructive participation in the UPR process despite its current domestic challenges. This reflects the Government's serious efforts and commitment in engaging the international community for the improvement of the human rights of its people. For the people to enjoy their human rights, domestic security must be restored and the rule of law upheld. In this regard, Singapore recommends that Central African Republic continues to cooperate with the UN and the international community to implement measures to ensure the security and safety of its people.

Healthcare is a key area which will significantly impact on the well-being of the people. While we note that the Government is making its utmost efforts to maintain the public's access to healthcare services, there remain many challenges. Singapore **recommends** that the Central African Republic, with the support from the relevant international organizations, continues to provide public healthcare services to its people, especially women and children.

In conclusion, we join the many friends of Central African Republic in wishing the country well.