STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON CHAD ON 29 OCTOBER 2013

[Speaking time: 1 min 40 sec]

Mr President,

Singapore expresses its appreciation to the delegation of Chad for its presentation and takes positive note of the Government's commitment to promote the enjoyment of the human rights of its people. Since its last review in 2009, Chad has signed and ratified several international and regional human rights treaties which are complemented by the passage of a number of domestic laws to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights.

In particular, we note the Government's cooperation with the UNDP to implement a programme to strengthen judicial services, human rights and gender equity in 2012. We also note its efforts in working with the UNFPA to further improve its gender policy, as well as with the UNICEF to enhance the protection of children. Singapore recommends that Chad, with the support of relevant international organisations, continues to implement policies to enhance gender equality and the domestic framework to protect the rights of women and children.

Education enables the people to gain social mobility and to improve their economic well-being. In this regard, we take positive note of Chad's emphasis to improve the national education system. We note the progress in the enrolment rate, particularly that of girls. We also note that the Government has launched plans to build more classrooms aimed at allowing every child in Chad to have the opportunity to receive an education. Singapore **recommends** that Chad, in cooperation

with UNESCO, continues to implement measures to promote access to education for all.

In conclusion, we join the many friends of Chad in wishing the country success.