

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE
DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)
WORKING GROUP SESSION ON JORDAN ON 24
OCTOBER 2013**

[Speaking time: 1 min 35 sec]

Mr President,

Singapore would like to thank the delegation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their detailed presentation. We note Jordan's commitment and progress in promoting the human rights of its people. In particular, we take positive note of the passage of the Personal Status Act in 2010 to further strengthen the domestic legislative framework for protecting women including from forced marriages and domestic violence. We also note the amendments made to the Social Security Act and Labour Code to improve the socio-economic protection of women and to make it more conducive for women to continue working after their marriage. Singapore recommends Jordan to continue its efforts to promote gender equality and women empowerment in all economic sectors and the society.

Singapore also takes note of Jordan's progress in improving its education system to build a knowledge-based economy. According to statistics provided by the Government, the overall enrolment ratio in primary education has reached nearly 100 per cent in 2012. The Government has also increased its budget on education to around 4 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product in 2012. School textbooks and teachers' manuals are being reviewed and developed to improve the quality of

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education. Singapore recommends Jordan to continue its effort to improve access to quality education for all.

We join the many friends of Jordan in wishing it success.