## STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON CAMBODIA ON 28 JANUARY 2014

Mr President.

The rule of law is vital for maintaining peace and stability, which in turn are imperative for economic development and growth. In this regard, Singapore notes Cambodia's commitment to strengthen the rule of law and to implement judicial reforms to improve its legal system. We note the adoption of the Criminal Code, the Law on the Implementation of Civil Code and the Anti-Corruption Law at the 4<sup>th</sup> legislature of the National Assembly. As of 2013, the Government has adopted more than 400 laws in various fields to strengthen domestic legal frameworks and increase the capacity of its judicial institution. Singapore **recommends** that Cambodia continue its efforts to enhance the rule of law as enshrined in its Constitution.

Singapore also notes the Government's progress in improving access to education. Under the Education Strategic Plan 2009-2013, every child, including those belonging to vulnerable and minority groups, is entitled to free primary school education at the age of six. Secondary schools have also been set up in almost all communes and sangkat in the country. As indicated in its national report, the Government recognises that further efforts are needed to improve the quality of education to meet the needs of its labour market. Singapore **recommends** that Cambodia, in cooperation with the UNDP and UNESCO, continue to improve its education system and vocational training for its people.

As a fellow ASEAN country, we join the many friends of Cambodia in wishing it success.