

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE  
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP  
SESSION ON BHUTAN ON 30 APRIL 2014**

[Speaking time: 1 min 25s]

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Bhutan to the UPR. The high level participation demonstrates Bhutan's serious commitment to promoting and protecting the human rights of its people. In particular, we note Bhutan's efforts to improve the rule of law through strengthening the capacity of its judiciary. Significant progress has been made in human resource development and infrastructure development. Besides establishing a court in each of the 20 Districts, separate courts have also been established in all the 15 Sub-Districts to enhance access to justice of its people. Singapore **recommends** that Bhutan continues to improve the rule of law and undertake further measures to enhance the capacity of its law enforcement agencies.

Singapore also notes Bhutan's progress in improving its education system to build a knowledge-based economy. We note the consistent increase in the enrolment rate for primary schools since 2009. Efforts have been made to enhance gender equality in access to education. The Government has implemented measures such as provision of free text books, stationery, meals and boarding facilities to assist students from poorer families, including those in the rural and remote areas. Singapore **recommends** that Bhutan continues to improve its education system and ensure equitable access to quality education for its people.

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

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