

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP
SESSION ON BRUNEI DARUSSALAM ON 2 MAY 2014**

[Speaking time: 1 min 35s]

Mr President,

Singapore congratulates Brunei for its achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights. In particular, we note Brunei's progress in promoting access to education for its people. Brunei obtained a high UNESCO Education for All Development Index in 2011. We also note the continued improvement in its education system through the implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2012-2017. Singapore and Brunei work closely together to share expertise, particularly in language and technical education. Singapore **recommends** that Brunei continues to take further measures to strengthen its education system, particularly through the initiatives outlined in its Strategic Plan.

Singapore lauds the centrality of social harmony in the Brunei Vision 2035. Brunei has consistently pushed initiatives to promote social harmony, through providing generous social welfare for the disadvantaged, reducing youth unemployment through training, and promoting family cohesion through a national Family Day. Singapore **recommends** that Brunei continue its efforts in maintaining social harmony.

Singapore commends Brunei's promotion of access to healthcare. Significant progress has been made in the development of medical infrastructure from 2007 to 2012. There is longstanding cooperation between Singapore and Brunei to develop our health professionals and medical expertise. Singapore **recommends** that Brunei continues to improve its national healthcare system and ensure access to quality healthcare.

In conclusion, Singapore joins the many friends of Brunei in wishing it success in continuing to protect human rights. As a fellow ASEAN country, we will continue to work closely with Brunei to uphold the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights.