

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE  
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP  
SESSION ON ETHIOPIA ON 6 MAY 2014**

[Speaking time: 1 min]

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Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Ethiopia to the UPR process. We note the Government's achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights. In particular, we note its significant efforts in improving the provision of health services to the people, including those living in the rural areas. As a result, infant and under-five mortality rates in the country have declined. The Government has also undertaken comprehensive reforms for the health sector including implementing a development plan to focus on prevention and mitigation of public health problems including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria outbreaks. Singapore **recommends** that Ethiopia, in cooperation with WHO and relevant international organisations, continues to improve access to quality health care for its people.

We also note that Ethiopia has made significant progress in the empowerment of women. Gender parity in tertiary education has improved with more girls attending universities and graduate schools. There has also been higher levels of women political participation. 19% of the positions in the Executive Organ at the Federal level today are held by women. The Government has also been promoting women's entrepreneurship by providing training and facilitating access to credit and markets. We note that more than half a million women have already benefited from government-supported credit and saving services by 2011. Singapore **recommends** that Ethiopia continues to promote gender equality and ensure equal opportunities for all women and girls.

We join the many friends of Ethiopia in wishing it continued success.

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