

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP
SESSION ON QATAR ON 7 MAY 2014**

[Speaking time: 1 min 25s]

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Qatar to the UPR process and expresses appreciation for the delegation's detailed presentation. We note Qatar's achievements in the protection and promotion of human rights. Significant progress has been made in advancing the role of women in society. The Qatar National Vision 2030 reaffirms the need to strengthen women's capacities and to empower them to participate in political and economic life. Laws are in place to ensure that women are not discriminated in terms of social benefits and employment. Today, many of the senior leadership positions in the Supreme Council, government bodies as well as diplomatic posts are held by women. A number of women have held or are holding Cabinet positions in the fields of Education, Health and Information Technology. Singapore **recommends** that Qatar continues to promote gender equality and eliminate discrimination against women and girls in accordance with its obligations under CEDAW.

As a State Party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Qatar has also undertaken several measures to create an inclusive society for persons with disabilities. Besides providing support to persons with disabilities to address their unique and basic needs, the Government has also conducted workshops to inform them of their rights. Training programmes are also provided for persons with disabilities to improve their employability. Singapore **recommends** that Qatar continues to undertake measures to support and protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

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