

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP
SESSION ON IRAQ ON 3 NOVEMBER 2014**
[Speaking time: 1 min 15s] 36

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes Iraq's efforts to participate in the UPR process, despite its current security challenges. We firmly support the UNSC resolution 2170 and strongly condemn the actions and violent extremist ideology of ISIS. In this regard, Singapore welcomes the formation of the international coalition to combat the ISIS threat. Singapore also hopes that the formation of the new Cabinet will bring long-term stability and security to the country. In this regard, we take positive note of the large number of domestic legislations that have been put in place over the last few years. We **recommend** that Iraq continues to strengthen its domestic legal system and enforcement measures to secure a safe living environment for its people.

We also note that Iraq has made progress in improving the welfare and equal treatment of women including by creating the Women's Welfare Department to implement policies and programmes for the empowerment of women. In addition, we take positive note of the government's information campaigns such as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. Singapore **recommends** that Iraq continues to combat gender violence and promote equal opportunity for women and girls.

We join the many friends of Iraq in wishing the country success.

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