

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

[Speaking time: 1 min 35s]

Mr President,

Singapore takes note of the progress that Kazakhstan has made in promoting and protecting human rights since its last review. In particular, we note Kazakhstan's achievements in the area of right to health. The single national health care system was introduced in 2010 to improve access to quality health care by its people including those living in the rural areas. The Government has also increased its fiscal expenditure on health care by more than two times since 2008. As a result, the country's maternal and infant mortality rates have been on the decline over the last few years. There has also been progress in reducing the rate of tuberculosis infection. Singapore **recommends** that Kazakhstan continues its effort to improve access to quality healthcare by its people.

Singapore also takes positive note of Kazakhstan's efforts in protecting women and promoting gender equality. Noticeably, the number of women in the Parliament has increased since the last review. Women are also holding senior appointments in the government and judiciary. Kazakhstan's progress in combating domestic violence is reflected by the decline in reports of family violence since the adoption of the Law on Preventing Domestic Violence in 2009. Singapore **recommends** that Kazakhstan continues its effort to prevent domestic violence and further promote gender equality.

Singapore joins the other friends of Kazakhstan in wishing it success in further promoting and protecting human rights.