

**STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON LIBERIA ON 4 MAY 2015**

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Liberia to Geneva. We commend Liberia for its commitment to the UPR process, even as it confronts the challenges of managing the outbreak of the Ebola virus.

Since its last UPR in 2010, Liberia has taken steps to protect and promote human rights, including implementing the Agenda for Transformation and National Human Rights Action Plan.

In particular, Liberia has strengthened its policies and legislation to combat sexual and gender-based violence. However, the incidence of such violence remains high. We **recommend** that Liberia continue to strengthen the capacity of domestic institutions to combat sexual and gender-based violence, including through cooperation with the international community.

Singapore notes that Liberia has also implemented reforms in the justice sector. Regional justice and security hubs have been established to increase access to justice, particularly in areas outside the capital. We **recommend** that Liberia continue to intensify efforts to strengthen the rule of law and the criminal justice system by developing the capacity of judicial, legal and security sectors.

In conclusion, Singapore joins the many friends of Liberia in wishing the country success in promoting and protecting human rights.

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