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STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF BELARUS AT THE 22ND UPR WORKING GROUP, 4 MAY 2015

[Speaking time: 1 minute 15 seconds]

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation of Belarus to the 22nd UPR Working Group.

We acknowledge Belarus' efforts in combating human trafficking since its last UPR review. It has adopted legislation such as the Trafficking in Persons Act of 7 January 2012 and implemented policies to provide social protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking. We **recommend** that Belarus continues to ensure the effective implementation of these legislation and policies to prevent and combat human trafficking.

Singapore also welcomes Belarus' intention to accede to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. We **recommend** that Belarus does so as soon as possible. In the interim, Belarus should continue do what it can to counter discrimination against people with disabilities and to promote their inclusion in society.

Singapore joins the many friends of Belarus in wishing it every success in improving and promoting the human rights of its people.

Thank you Mr President.