

**STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF NEPAL AT THE 23<sup>RD</sup> UPR WORKING GROUP, 4 NOVEMBER 2015**

[Speaking time: 1 min 35 secs]

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation from Nepal to the 23<sup>rd</sup> UPR Working Group and thanks it for its presentation.

Nepal has demonstrated resilience and fortitude in confronting recent challenges such as the devastating earthquake earlier this year. We welcome Nepal's continued commitment to protect and uphold human rights.

We acknowledge the progress that Nepal has made in the area of education. The statistics in the past few years showing increases in basic education, and qualified and trained teachers in basic education, and literacy rates are encouraging. Singapore **recommends** that Nepal continues to pursue policies that will increase enrolment in schools of school-going aged children, in particular girls, and children from indigenous communities and minorities.

We commend the efforts by Nepal to promote and protect the right to health of every citizen. Nepal has put in place a new National Health Policy, 2014, and increased health care human resources and the number of beds in recent years. Singapore **recommends** that Nepal continues to implement policy measures to ensure that quality healthcare is accessible to all, particularly women and children.

As a friend of Nepal, we wish Nepal every success in promoting and protecting the rights of its people.

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