

**STATEMENT BY SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC
REVIEW (UPR) OF RWANDA AT THE 23RD UPR WORKING GROUP,
4 NOVEMBER 2015**

[Speaking time: 1 min 20 secs]

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation from Rwanda to the 23rd UPR Working Group and thanks it for its detailed presentation.

We welcome Rwanda's commitment and efforts to promote and protect human rights since Rwanda's last UPR in 2011. This includes ensuring decentralised access to justice for all Rwandans, including through the posting of Access to Justice Officers in 30 districts. Singapore **recommends** that Rwanda further strengthen efforts to ensure full and unhindered access to justice for all Rwandans, particularly through policies and laws designed to combat corrupt practices at all levels.

Singapore also welcomes Rwanda's commitment to a zero-tolerance policy towards domestic and other types of gender-based violence. We acknowledge Rwanda's initiative to establish Isange One Stop Centres and strengthen government institutions to respond to gender-based violence. Singapore **recommends** that Rwanda consider further strengthening policies and laws to put in place an effective and holistic system towards combating violence against women and ensuring justice for victims.

We join the many friends of Rwanda in wishing it every success in promoting and protecting the rights of its people.

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