**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF HAITI AT THE 26TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 7 NOVEMBER 2016**

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Haiti to the 26th UPR Working Group.

We commend Haiti’s commitment to protect and promote human rights and engage in the UPR process, even as it seeks to ensure a full recovery from the devastation caused by Hurricane Matthew just last month.

Haiti has developed a comprehensive Strategic Development Plan to improve its public services. This includes raising education standards for early childhood education as well as higher education and vocational training.

We **recommend** that Haiti continue to take steps to prevent disruption to education faced by children affected by Hurricane Matthew, and implement policies and programmes that promote access to education.

Haiti has expanded health coverage for children and reconstructed numerous health facilities affected by previous natural disasters. We **recommend** that Haiti continue to strengthen its public healthcare system and improve access to healthcare services, particularly for women, children and older persons.

As a fellow Small Island Developing State, Singapore remains committed to working with Haiti through our technical cooperation package for SIDS and our Sustainable Development Package under the Singapore Cooperation Programme to support Haiti’s development.

We join Haiti’s friends in wishing it a speedy recovery from Hurricane Matthew and in its development journey.

Thank you Mr President.

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