**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF GABON AT THE 28TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 7 NOVEMBER 2017**

Mr President,

 Singapore welcomes the delegation of Gabon to the 28th UPR Working Group session. We commend Gabon’s full implementation of recommendations from the previous UPR cycle, in particular those related to strengthening protection of vulnerable groups.

We applaud Gabon’s commitment to facilitate access to decent healthcare services for its people, through the wider implementation of the National Health Insurance and Social Protection Fund. We **recommend** that Gabon continues to expand the coverage of this fund to include more disadvantaged persons and those previously without coverage in accordance with its national plan.

Singapore commends Gabon’s efforts in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, through the adoption of legislation establishing policy guidelines to care for and protect persons with mental disabilities and by providing support to persons with disabilities to create income generating activities. We **recommend** that Gabon continues to implement policies and ensure adequate resources are allocated to support the integration and active participation of all persons with disabilities in Gabonese society.

As a fellow small state, Singapore wishes Gabon every success in its efforts to achieve its developmental goals and promote the human rights of its people.

 Thank you Mr President.

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