**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF SRI LANKA AT THE 28TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 15 NOVEMBER 2017**

Mr President,

Singapore commends the current government of Sri Lanka for making concrete progress towards securing peace, national reconciliation, and the well-being of its people.

We also acknowledge the government’s efforts in engaging the international community including the United Nations (UN) and the UN Human Rights mechanisms.

Sri Lanka launched its National Human Rights Action Plan 2017-2021 (NHRAP) on 1 November 2017, with action points for implementation in ten thematic areas over the next five years.

We **recommend** that Sri Lanka ensures that adequate resources are invested for the effective implementation of this Action Plan, in particular at the provincial level.

We commend the substantial progress made by the government of Sri Lanka in poverty alleviation since the last review.

We **recommend** that the government fully implements its *Vision 2025 – A Country Enriched*, expand existing programmes such as the *Gramashakthi People’s Movement*, or establish new initiatives where necessary, to boost poverty alleviation efforts and to address regional disparities.

Singapore and Sri Lanka have a strong and longstanding friendship, anchored by deep people-to-people ties. We wish Sri Lanka every success in its efforts to promote development and protect the human rights of all its people.

 Thank you Mr President.