**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF AUSTRALIA AT THE 37TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 20 JANUARY 2021**

Mdm President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation and commends Australia’s achievements in promoting and protecting the human rights of its people. As a major global aid provider and an active delegation at the Council and the UN, we hope that Australia will act sensitively and support its partners’ own national priorities and plans.

We recognise Australia’s efforts to address family, domestic and sexual violence, including enhanced support for women and children during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Singapore recommends that Australia increase investments in prevention and support initiatives to combat and reduce the prevalence of family, domestic and sexual violence, especially among population groups that are disproportionately affected.**

We note Australia’s nationally coordinated efforts to promote and protect the rights of indigenous Australians, including in the areas of health and education. **Singapore recommends that, in partnership and consultation with the communities concerned, Australia strengthen its efforts to reduce inequalities faced by indigenous Australians in key areas, including access to healthcare, education and employment.**

Thank you.

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