**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF GEORGIA AT THE 37TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 26 JANUARY 2021**

*[Speaking time: 1 min 05 sec]*

Mdm President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation and commends Georgia’s efforts since its last review to promote and protect the human rights of its people.

We commend Georgia’s efforts to combat violence against women and domestic violence. This includes adopting a National Action Plan for 2018-2020 and supplementing it with a National Communication Strategy and Action Plan.

**Singapore recommends that the Government build on the abovementioned National Action Plan and Communication Strategy, to address additional challenges facing women and girls, including possible increased domestic violence, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

We note Georgia’s efforts on the rights of persons with disabilities (PWDs), including the adoption of the Law on the Rights of PWDs in 2020 and the establishment of a Consultative Council as well as Coordination Councils at the municipality-level on PWD-issues. Singapore notes that the Law on the Rights of PWDs provides for the creation of a national mechanism to ensure the realisation of their rights and to provide full access to all services.

**We recommend that the Government work to expeditiously establish this mechanism, with the full involvement of all relevant government agencies and non-government stakeholders, including PWDs representatives themselves.**

As a fellow small state, Singapore wishes Georgia every success in its efforts to counter the COVID-19 pandemic, build-back better and advance the human rights of its people.

Thank you, Mdm President.

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