**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF ESTONIA AT THE 38TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 4 MAY 2021**

Mdm President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation and acknowledges Estonia’s efforts since its last review to promote and protect the rights of its people. Estonia is a recognised global leader in several fields, particularly digital innovation, and we also note the recent ‘A-status’ accreditation of its Chancellor of Justice.

We commend Estonia’s efforts to promote and protect the rights of women by promoting gender equality and combating domestic violence by implementing rolling four-year Gender Equality Programmes (2019-2022, 2020-2023) and drafting a memorandum on the Domestic Violence Action Plan (2019-2023). **Singapore recommends that adequate resources are allocated for the training of law enforcement and other relevant public officers, in the context of the abovementioned plans, to ensure their full and effective implementation.**

We also commend Estonia’s efforts to promote and protect the rights of the child. This includes efforts to enhance its child protection system through a reform of alternative care in 2018 as well as tackling violence against children, including by providing comprehensive services to victims of child sexual abuse. **Singapore recommends that the Government continues to strengthen its efforts to combat violence against children, including by conducting awareness-raising activities in the community and schools, and providing effective reporting channels for such abuses.**

As a fellow small state, Singapore wishes Estonia every success in its efforts to achieve its human rights and development goals, as well as to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you, Mdm President.

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