**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF THE BAHAMAS AT THE 43rd UPR WORKING GROUP, 3 MAY 2023**

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation of the Bahamas to their 4th cycle UPR and commends them on the progress made since their last review despite challenges such as Hurricane Dorian and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Bahamas has made efforts to improve service delivery in the healthcare sector, including through strengthening physical and digital infrastructure. This has improved the delivery of essential primary healthcare services across the country, and the rights of its people to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. **Singapore recommends that the Bahamas ensure that its national healthcare policies are inclusive and accessible to all, including persons with disabilities and those who live in remote areas.**

The Bahamas has placed a strong emphasis on promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls, both nationally and internationally. In particular, we commend the Bahamas on their efforts to eliminate gender-based violence and domestic violence through targeted policies. **Singapore recommends that the Bahamas strengthen efforts to eliminate existing discriminatory stereotypes against women and girls, such as through awareness raising campaigns and other appropriate policies.**

As a fellow SIDS, Singapore wishes the Bahamas every success in implementing its accepted recommendations in a manner that best suits its national circumstances. Thank you.

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(202 words, ~75 seconds)