**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF THE BAHAMAS AT THE 29TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 17 JANUARY 2018**

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of the Bahamas to the 29th UPR Working Group.

We commend the Bahamas for its continued commitment, national efforts and international cooperation to comprehensively combat trafficking in persons. We applaud in this regard the series of related legislative and policy measures the Bahamas government had implemented since its last review, including the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act 2017, implementing a victim-centered protocol and training for front-line TIP responders, as well as public awareness campaigns.

We **recommend** that the Bahamas government continue to expand its TIP prevention measures, in particular by improving coordination with NGOs and other relevant government departments.

We applaud the Bahamas’ progress in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities since its last review with the signing of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013, its ratification in 2015 and the enactment of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities) Act in 2014. These measures help promote the rights and equal opportunities for all persons with disabilities in concrete ways, including when seeking employment.

We **recommend** that the Bahamas government adopt the necessary measures to ensure the effective socialisation and implementation of the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities) Act.

We wish the Bahamas every success in implementing its Vision 2040 national development plan and in promoting and protecting the human rights of its people.

Thank you Mr President.

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