**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF FRANCE AT THE 29TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 15 JANUARY 2018**

Mr President,

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

We acknowledge the French government’s continued commitment towards the promotion and protection of women’s rights, in particular to combat violence against women.

 We therefore commend the implementation of the fourth interministerial plan to prevent and combat violence against women (2014-2016) which helped improve the detection of violence against women, and victim support.

 We **recommend** that the French government ensure that the fifth interministerial plan (2017-2019) is adequately resourced and funded to meet its objectives.

We commend France for adopting a comprehensive national effort to combat racism, anti-semitism, hate speech and xenophobia in society and on the Internet, including through the National Action Plan to Combat Racism and Anti-Semitism 2015-2017.

We **recommend** that France continue to refine and implement the 40 measures in the 2015-2017 National Action until a new National Action Plan is introduced.

France has played an active role internationally in the promotion of human rights.

We hope that France will act sensitively in this regard, taking into account specific national circumstances and social contexts of its partners.

Thank you Mr President.

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