**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AT THE 29TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 22 JANUARY 2018**

Mr President,

Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of the United Arab Emirates to the 29th UPR Working Group.

We commend the positive steps taken by the UAE government to improve the promotion and protection of the rights of children. In particular, the adoption of the Federal Rights of the Child Act No.3 of 2016 (Wadeema’s law) and the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood are significant legislative and policy measures to protect children from all forms of neglect, exploitation, ill-treatment and abuse.

We **recommend** that the UAE government continue to adopt measures to ensure the effective implementation of Wadeema’s law and the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood 2017-2021.

We commend the comprehensive suite of policies, programmes and infrastructure the UAE government has established, including the National Policy for the Empowerment of Persons with disabilities in April 2017, to support persons with disabilities and to recognise their contributions to society.

We **recommend** that the UAE government continue to strengthen its collaboration with the relevant civil society organisations to provide better services to persons with disabilities, in particular in education and the labour market, so as to better integrate them into society.

We wish the UAE every success in achieving the goals set out in its National Agenda to attain its Vision 2021.

Thank you Mr President.

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