**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF CABO VERDE AT THE 30TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 8 MAY 2018**

Mr President,

 Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Cabo Verde to the 30th UPR Working Group.

 We commend Cabo Verde for implementing several legal and institutional measures since its last UPR in 2013 to better protect and promote the human rights of its people, in particular the revision of its Penal Code in 2015 and the establishment of an Inter-Ministry Commission for the Elaboration of National Reports.

We recognise that Cabo Verde has been taking concrete steps to build a more inclusive society by investing it its children. We commend in particular the extension of preschool to cover all children between 4-6 years old, and provisions in its 2017 Budget for the free enrolment and attendance of persons with disabilities at public educational establishments.

We **recommend** that the Cabo Verde government continues to ensure that its Education Strategic Plan (2017-2021) is adequately resourced to provide quality education for all children, in particular those from poor households and children with disabilities.

We commend the Cabo Verde government’s commitment to combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP). Its victim-centric approach also ensures that trafficking victims receives proper care and treatment.

We **recommend** that the government take steps to expeditiously approve and implement the National Plan to combat Trafficking in Persons (2018-2021) that is under development and to allocate adequate resources for the establishment and maintenance of shelters for victims of violence and trafficking.

As a fellow small state, we wish Cabo Verde every success in its development efforts and to promote the human rights of its people.

Thank you Mr President.

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