**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF AZERBAIJAN AT THE 30TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 15 MAY 2018**

Mr President,

 Singapore welcomes the delegation of Azerbaijan to the 30th UPR Working Group.

We commend Azerbaijan for its commitment to combat corruption and the adoption of a range of related legislative and policy measures since its last review, including the National Action Plan for Open Government 2016 – 2018.

 We **recommend** that Azerbaijan continue to enhance transparency in public entities and to strengthen its legal and policy framework to eradicate corruption in the public sector.

 We commend the steps taken by Azerbaijan to improve the quality and access to education for all its people, in particular increasing State spending on education by some 38% since 2011.

 We **recommend** that Azerbaijan continue to invest in state spending on public education, in particular in the rural areas to promote equal access to education.

 Azerbaijan has been active in promoting good governance as key to realising human rights and promoting development in various UN fora. Singapore shares Azerbaijan’s views on the importance of good governance and wishes Azerbaijan every success in achieving its development goals and protecting the human rights of its people.

 Thank you Mr President.

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