**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF BANGLADESH AT THE 30TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 14 May 2018**

Mr President,

 We commend Bangladesh for implementing the suite of administrative, legislative and policy measures to fulfil its commitments to promote and protect the human rights of its people since its last UPR. These efforts are particularly laudable given the significant challenges posed by the influx of displaced persons from Myanmar to Bangladesh in the past year.

 The Government of Bangladesh has prioritised the empowerment and protection of women as a precondition for national development.

 We **recommend** that the Government implement policies to increase the enrolment ratio of girls in primary and secondary schools to give them a good start in life.

We also commend measures such as the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence against Women and Children (2013–2025), the establishment of a 24-hour toll-free National Helpline and the mobile app “Joy” to prevent violence against women.

 We **recommend** that the Government ensures sufficient resources are allocated to fully implement all major components of the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence against Women and Children.

Singapore has every confidence that Bangladesh will be successful in its efforts to transform into a middle-income country by 2021 and a developed country by 2041.

Thank you Mr President.

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