**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF SAUDI ARABIA AT THE 31ST UPR WORKING GROUP, 5 NOVEMBER 2018**

Mr President,

We recognise Saudi Arabia’s significant efforts since its last review to build a vibrant society, a thriving economy and an ambitious nation through policies such as the “Saudi Vision 2030” and Supreme Order 905. The formulation of a national human rights strategy will also help improve the well-being of its citizens.

We welcome in particular Saudi Arabia’s concrete steps to promote and protect of the rights of persons with disabilities, including the creation of an authority for the care of persons with disabilities and improved delivery of government services for the disabled.

We recommend that Saudi Arabia strengthen its collaboration with the private sector to create more employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

We also commend Saudi Arabia’s substantial investments in education and training (which accounts for the largest share of its 2018 budget) to ensure that its citizens receive the best quality education available.

We recommend that Saudi Arabia implement inclusive policies to allow children with disabilities to receive adequate education and support they require in schools.

We have every confidence that Saudi Arabia can achieve its Saudi Vision 2030.

Thank you Mr President.

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