**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF MEXICO AT THE 31ST UPR WORKING GROUP, 7 NOVEMBER 2018**

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation of Mexico to the 31st UPR Working Group.

We commend the Mexican government for its efforts to improve the promotion and protection of human rights in Mexico through a suite of legislative changes and policy programmes. In particular, we congratulate the Mexican government for its achievements in reducing poverty and social inequalities through a comprehensive range of programmes such as PROSPERA, DICONSA and the National Development Plan.

We **recommend** that Mexico prioritise the effective implementation of these social support programmes in the rural areas to further reduce poverty and social inequalities amongst all its citizens.

We commend Mexico for the many steps taken since its last review to improve gender equality, in particular, the introduction of the National Programme for Equality of Opportunities and Non-Discrimination against Women 2013–2018 and the restructuring of the National System for Equality between Women and Men to enhance its effectiveness.

We note that Mexico has significantly increased its budget for promoting gender equality over the past few years and we **recommend** that Mexico continues to invest sufficient resources to improve gender equality and to better protect women and girls in Mexico.

Mexico has been very active in promoting and protecting human rights in the international arena, including at the UN and the HRC. We hope that Mexico will act sensitively in this regard by recognising the diversity of states and to take into account the national circumstances and challenges of its fellow member states while exercising its leadership in this field.

Thank you Mr President.

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