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

Mr President,

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

We commend Senegal for the many concrete initiatives it has implemented to promote and protect the human rights of its people since its last review, including reforms to its Constitution to strengthen the rule of law, and the adoption of the Emerging Senegal Plan.

Senegal has demonstrated its strong commitment to the advancement of the rights of women through measures such as the adoption of its second national strategy for gender equality and equity (2016-2026), and the launch of its first national action plan for the eradication of gender-based violence and the promotion of human rights (2017-2021).

We recommend that the government ensure that sufficient resources are allocated for the effective implementation of the above-mentioned measures and action plans to advance the rights and well-being of women and girls in Senegal.

We recognise the significant improvements in the protection and promotion of children’s rights with the implementation of the national child protection strategy. The government has also invested a commendable 6 per cent of the country’s gross domestic product to the PAQUET programme to ensure good education for Senegal’s children.

We recommend that the government sustain this high level of investment in the education sector to ensure more equitable access to the education system and higher quality of teaching and learning for Senegal’s children, including children with disabilities.

As a fellow small state, Singapore wishes Senegal every success in achieving its national development goals and in promoting the human rights and aspirations of its people through its Emerging Senegal Plan.

Thank you Mr President.

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