**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF VIET NAM AT THE 32ND UPR WORKING GROUP, 22 JANUARY 2019**

Mr President,

 Singapore warmly welcomes the delegation of Viet Nam to the 32nd UPR Working Group.

We commend Viet Nam for its efforts to improve the human rights of its citizens, including through implementing some 96% of accepted recommendations from its last UPR and adopting the 2016-2021 Action Plan of the Government to build “an enabling government” to better serve its people.

We acknowledge Viet Nam’s substantial efforts to attain the SDGs through policies such as the 2011-2020 Socio-economic Development Strategy, the 2016-2020 Socio-economic Development Plan, and the development of a National Action Plan for “Viet Nam SDGs”.

We recommend that Viet Nam allocate sufficient resources and ensure good inter-agency coordination for the effective implementation of these programmes, in particular at the provincial level.

 We recognise Viet Nam’s comprehensive efforts to protect and care for their vulnerable and underprivileged groups. We commend in particular Viet Nam’s wide-ranging actions to protect the rights of persons with disabilities through the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2015, the establishment of a National Committee on Persons with Disabilities, implementing community-based rehabilitation programmes in 53 provinces, and providing specialised education for children with disabilities in some 107 specialised education centres across the country.

 We recommend that Viet Nam continue to improve the quality and accessibility of services for persons with disabilities, in particular for children with disabilities, to allow them to better integrate with society.

 Vietnam is a fellow ASEAN member and our bilateral cooperation is strong and broad. Singapore wishes Viet Nam every success in its administrative reforms and in achieving its national development goals.

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