**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF ERITREA AT THE 32ND UPR WORKING GROUP, 28 JANUARY 2019**

Mr President,

We commend Eritrea’s efforts in promoting development, eradicating poverty, and overcoming malnutrition for its people.

We acknowledge the Government’s efforts to improve access to education and the quality of education for Eritrea’s children with the introduction of programmes such as the Early Childhood Development Programme and Complementary Elementary Education, as well as mainstreaming special needs education in 45 regular middle schools.

We **recommend** that the Government enhance access to education for children with disabilities by providing special needs education in more public schools, including those in the rural areas.

We commend the Government’s ongoing efforts to improve its public health system through measures such as the implementation of its National Health Sector Strategic Development Plan (2017-2021), and the “Roll Back Malaria Strategy” which had sharply reduced mortality rates by 86%.

**We recommend** that Eritrea continue to invest in the development of its public health system to increase medical coverage in the rural areas.

Singapore wishes Eritrea every success in achieving its development goals and caring for its people.

Thank you Mr President.

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