**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF FIJI AT THE 34TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 6 NOVEMBER 2019**

Mr President,

Singapore welcomes the delegation of Fiji to the 34th UPR Working Group and congratulates Fiji for its significant progress in implementing the accepted recommendations from its previous UPR.

As a SIDS vulnerable to the impacts of global warming, Fiji’s continued commitment and national efforts to strengthen its climate adaptation and disaster resilience are essential measures to ensure the best-possible conditions to advance the rights of its people in the face of climate change. We commend the launch of Fiji’s first National Adaptation Plan in this regard, and the allocation of funds to a suite of climate-related initiatives under its 2019-2020 national budget.

We **recommend** that Fiji conducts a comprehensive evaluation of the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan to build on successes and lessons learned for future iterations of the Plan.

We commend Fiji for its concrete steps to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, including the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2017, the enactment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2018, and the 2019 implementation plan.

To build on these efforts, we **recommend** that Fiji take the necessary public education measures to remove any remaining stigma and barriers against the full inclusion of disabled persons, particularly disabled women and children, in Fijian life and society.

As a fellow small island state, Singapore wishes Fiji every success in achieving its development goals and enhancing the human rights of its people.

Thank you Mr President.

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