**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF IRAN AT THE 34TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 8 NOVEMBER 2019**

Mr President,

Singapore commends Iran’s efforts to strengthen and update its institutional and legal frameworks since its last review, and to develop the economic, social and cultural rights of its people despite facing significant challenges. In particular, we congratulate Iran for increasing the literacy rate across different age groups through a series of programmes designed to enhance access to education.

We **recommend** that Iran continues to implement targeted policies to combat illiteracy and promote quality education, particularly for girls, and in rural and poorer communities.

We commend Iran’s concrete efforts to strengthen the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities through the adoption of the Act on the Protection on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2017.

We **recommend** that Iran continues its awareness-raising activities to combat stigma and discrimination against disabled persons and work towards the creation of a National Committee for Coordination of Affairs of Persons with Disabilities to supervise the implementation of the aforementioned Act.

Singapore wishes Iran every success in achieving its development goals and realising the aspirations of its people.

Thank you Mr President.

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