**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA AT THE 34TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 5 NOVEMBER 2019**

 Singapore welcomes the delegation and acknowledges the Plurinational State of Bolivia’s progress since its last review, including implementing measures such as SIPLUS, a national mechanism established in 2015 to coordinate reporting and follow-up to the international human rights mechanisms and their recommendations.

We commend Bolivia’s “The Patriotic Agenda 2025” or the General Plan for Economic and Social Development, and the government’s significant measures taken to reduce poverty, which has reduced the poverty rate by more than 20 per cent since 2006 and lifted more than 1.6 million people out of extreme poverty. We note that a number of public policies have been introduced to improve the quality of life of its population, including the ongoing Life Plan for the Eradication of Extreme Poverty. Singapore **recommends** that Bolivia ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to these programmes to ensure their implementation and long term sustainability.

Singapore also commends Bolivia’s concrete efforts to combat violence against women. These include the establishment of a Comprehensive Act of Guaranteeing Women a Life Free of Violence, an inter-institutional committee to implement the Comprehensive Public Policy to Ensure a Decent Life for Women, a Special Office for Combating Violence against Women, and a Comprehensive Plurinational System for Preventing, Addressing, Punishing and Eradicating Gender-based Violence. We note that the Special Office for Combating Violence against Women also adopted a list of 10 commandments making addressing violence against women a national priority in July 2019. Singapore **recommends** that the government enhance its awareness-raising efforts at the local level, especially in rural areas, to prevent and eradicate violence against women.

As a fellow small state, Singapore wishes Bolivia every success in its efforts to achieve its development goals for its people.

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