**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF KAZAKHSTAN AT THE 34TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 7 NOVEMBER 2019**

 Singapore welcomes the delegation and acknowledges Kazakhstan’s efforts since its last review to enhance the well-being of vulnerable groups such as children, women, and persons with disabilities.

We commend the government’s concrete measures to protect the rights of the child which have helped to reduce the number of sexual crimes against minors by 1.3 times over the past five years. These include the establishment of an Institute of the CRC in 2016, a Commissioner for the Rights of the Child, a 24-hour emergency assistance helpline for children, enhanced punishments for the sexual and financial exploitation of children, and cooperation with UNICEF to develop training for judges examining child-related cases.

Singapore **recommends** that the government consider further technical collaboration between its institutions and the relevant UN agencies and third countries to identify and implement good practices, as appropriate, for providing quality early and inclusive education for all children, particularly children with disabilities.

Singapore also commends Kazakhstan’s commitment to gender equality and its efforts to enable the participation of women in all aspects of life. In particular, we commend Kazakhstan’s implementation of its Gender Equality Strategy (2006-2016), and its 2016 Concept of Family and Gender Policy through 2030. Singapore **recommends** that the government ensure that sufficient resources and training are allocated to the implementation of the 2016 Concept of Family and Gender Policy in order to make its outcomes sustainable.

Singapore wishes Kazakhstan every success in its efforts to achieve its development goals for its people.

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