**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF KUWAIT AT THE 35TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 29 JANUARY 2020**

Madam President,

 Singapore welcomes Kuwait’s commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which have been harmonised with Kuwait’s medium-term development plan. We commend in particular efforts to realise Goal five on gender equality under its national development plan, and through collaboration with UNDP and UN Women. We **recommend** that Kuwait continues to incorporate policies to empower women in future development plans, taking into account successes and lessons learned from previous years.

 Singapore notes that the proportion of older persons in Kuwait’s society has been growing steadily. This trend will persist as the life expectancy for Kuwaitis continues to rise. In this context, we commend Kuwait for strengthening its legislative framework on older persons and **recommend** that Kuwait consider establishing a mechanism to monitor the effective delivery of care services for older persons, as more people become reliant on such services.

 Thank you.

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