**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SINGAPORE AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT THE 36TH UPR WORKING GROUP, 9 NOVEMBER 2020**

Mdm President,

Singapore welcomes the United States (US)’ delegation. We take note of the US’ efforts since its last review to promote human rights, including the important work of the Commission on Unalienable Rights.

The US is one of the most racially, culturally and religiously diverse nations in the world. Given our own multi-ethnic society, Singapore recognises the complexity and sensitivity required to preserve racial and religious harmony and the rule of law. We note the US government’s acknowledgement that more can be done to ensure fairness to all citizens.

**Singapore recommends that the US continue to take concrete actions to promote inter-racial and inter-religious respect and eradicate discrimination, including through addressing socio-economic root causes and strengthening domestic remedies.**

Existing socio-economic inequalities have been exacerbated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and are a fundamental challenge confronting all UN Member States, including the US. We commend the US for taking steps to address poverty, including the launch of an updated comprehensive federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness in April 2020.

**Singapore recommends that the US continue its ongoing efforts to build a more inclusive society and reduce inequalities, including by updating its strategic plans to address the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations.**

Thank you, Mdm President.

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