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Singapore

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I. Introduction

1. Singapore celebrated our 60th anniversary of independence in 2025. Over the years, we have overcome many challenges – including racial strife, economic crises, and global pandemics – and built a nation which we are proud of today. We will continue to uplift our people and nurture a cohesive, harmonious, and stable society where all can thrive. Our commitment to building a country with genuine inclusivity, deep cohesion and resilience remains unwavering.

II. Singapore's approach to human rights

2. Even though Singapore has made considerable progress over the years, we do not take the outcomes for granted. Singapore's journey, from the 1964 race riots that claimed 36 lives to today's ranking as one of the safest countries in the world¹, demonstrates the Government's sustained commitment to the progress of human rights. The Government constantly looks for ways to improve the lives of our people amid evolving challenges.

3. Singapore's fundamental constraints as a small, densely populated, and highly diverse city-state remain unchanged. With 6.11 million people living within 736km² (June 2025 figures), we are the third most densely populated country globally. Our 75.5% Chinese, 15.1% Malay, 7.6% Indian, and 1.8% other ethnic populations live in immediate proximity, requiring active management of inter-communal relations. Singapore is a highly open, multi-religious² country, which contributes to our diversity. As of 2025, we host 0.54 million permanent residents and 1.91 million foreigners on long-term work or visit passes. Our population is also fast ageing – 20.7% of our citizens are aged 65 and older, compared to 13.1% a decade ago.

4. Singapore is fully committed to the protection and promotion of the human rights of our people. We take a pragmatic and outcomes-based approach to the realisation of human rights. We believe that human rights exist in specific cultural, social, economic, and historical contexts. In each country, a balance has to be struck between the rights of the individuals and the interests of society as a whole, while responding to evolving changes and aspirations in our society. Singapore continues to be staunchly committed to upholding the rule of law, which is a necessary precondition to realising the fundamental human rights enshrined in our Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

5. Guided by this approach, Singapore has continued to introduce key legislation and initiatives to protect the rights and improve the well-being of our people since our last report in 2021. The Workplace Fairness Act 2025 (WFA), enacted in January 2025, is Singapore's first workplace anti-discrimination law³. The Workplace Fairness (Dispute Resolution) Bill, passed by Parliament in November 2025, augments the WFA to include provisions for workers to seek remedies via private civil claims if they have faced workplace discrimination. In a major move, following extensive public consultations, the Government repealed the law that criminalised consensual sex acts between men, which took effect on 3 January 2023. In addition to these key pieces of legislation, we continue to strengthen protections for society's vulnerable members through other initiatives. To advance the status of women, the Government published a White Paper in 2022 containing 25 collective action plans for further empowerment and upliftment. With a fast-ageing population, the Government has been actively enhancing care support and infrastructure for older persons. Our efforts to support lower-income groups and ensure that they can continually upgrade their skills have helped Singapore to successfully reduce income inequality. Singapore's Gini coefficient (after Government taxes and transfers) reached a historic low of 0.364 in 2024, from 0.409 in 2015.

6. The past five years have also seen challenges such as climate change and technology impacting all societies, including Singapore. We have introduced measures to meet these challenges. For example, on climate change, the Government is putting in place coastal and flood protection measures to safeguard people from adverse impacts. We have also introduced heat stress measures to help the most vulnerable, such as outdoor workers and older persons, better adapt to high heat conditions. To rein in the darker side of technology, the Government has introduced initiatives and legislation to better protect users from online

crimes and harmful online content. Given the impact of technology on employment, the Government has also sought to address the labour protection and social security needs of platform workers with the enactment of the Platform Workers Act 2024.

7. At the same time, Singapore continues to maintain strong outcomes in education, housing, and healthcare – three pillars fundamental to Singaporeans’ quality of life, human security, and enjoyment of human rights. Our sustained investments in education have created an internationally recognised system that provides access to quality learning opportunities, protecting children’s right to education. Public housing policies have led to a home ownership rate of around 90%, supporting the realisation of the fundamental right to adequate housing for the vast majority of our people. Healthcare policies focused on universal access and affordability have established a public healthcare system that protects citizens’ right to health.

8. As our challenges become more complex, the Government has engaged all stakeholders more deeply to create and implement policies that respond to their needs. As Prime Minister Lawrence Wong said during his 2025 National Day Rally speech, Singapore must continue to maintain strong bonds of mutual support and shared responsibility to remain united in an increasingly complex world. This collective approach is essential for Singapore to write our next chapter, as we remain firm in our commitment of leaving no one behind in building a more inclusive, cohesive, and resilient society.

III. Methodology

9. Singapore is committed to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. We see the UPR as a useful opportunity to take stock of the progress made in protecting and promoting the human rights of all people in Singapore.

10. At our 3rd UPR in 2021, we accepted 210 of 324 recommendations. The Inter-Ministry Committee on Human Rights (IMC-HR),⁴ which functions as the National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow Up (NMIRF), periodically tracks and reviews the implementation of the recommendations. The Government actively and regularly engages Singapore citizens and civil society, outside the UPR cycle. For the 4th UPR cycle, the Inter-Ministry Committee conducted additional rounds of consultation with a broad range of civil society organisations. Singapore also engages with international human rights mechanisms, including through our regular treaty reviews and exchanges with the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council. We most recently hosted Special Rapporteur on the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment Ms Astrid Puentes Riaño’s country visit to Singapore in May 2025. These exchanges help us learn from best practices and improve our policies.

11. This report describes the implementation of the recommendations that Singapore has adopted, in whole or in part, and other significant policy developments since the 3rd UPR. Due to length constraints, the report does not reference all the recommendations from our 3rd UPR.

Moving Singapore forward together — Towards an inclusive, cohesive and resilient society

IV. Building a more inclusive society

12. Our vision is to build an inclusive society where everyone, particularly the less advantaged, can live up to their potential. In this regard, we have reinforced support for vulnerable groups – children, women, migrants, persons with disabilities, and older persons – through targeted policies and community measures.

A. Children and family life

Recommendations 27-8, 60, 62, 64, 184-5, 196-204, 206-12, 253-60, 263-8, 270-8, 297 (SDG targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 16.2, 16.3)

13. Every child deserves the best possible start in life. To this end, Singapore provides each child with strong learning foundations and each family with strong support as they raise their children. We remain committed to our Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) obligations. Our sixth periodic report submitted in 2024 covered our comprehensive efforts to keep children safe, help them grow up happy and healthy, and provide them with opportunities.⁵

14. Supporting families and giving each child a strong start. In 2022, the Government launched the “A Singapore Made for Families 2025” national plan to reflect our whole-of-society commitment to build a family-friendly society. We provide specific family support, including enhanced Government-paid leave schemes for parents and the Tripartite Guidelines on Flexible Work Arrangement Requests launched in 2024. In addition, Singapore ensures that every child has access to affordable and quality education to give each child a strong start in life. With over S\$2 billion (US\$1.54 billion) invested in early childhood education annually and the steady increase in government-supported preschool places over the past decade, Singapore has achieved very high enrolment at the preschool level (93%) (for children aged 5–6). As of 2025, Singapore has provided more than 80% of our preschoolers with a place in government-supported preschools. Singapore has also achieved near-universal enrolment at primary (99.8%) and secondary (99.9%) school levels, with literacy rates among the resident population (aged 15+) remaining high at 97.6% in 2021.

15. Singapore provides targeted support to uplift students from lower-income families.

(a) Substantial broad-based subsidies are provided for both preschool and the public education system, with additional support provided to lower-income families. To enhance preschool affordability, children from lower-income families receive full childcare subsidies for their income tier, paying as little as S\$3/month (US\$2.30/month) for full-day childcare. Beyond preschool, Singapore will raise the income eligibility criteria for the Ministry of Education (MOE) Financial Assistance Scheme and MOE Independent School Bursary from 2026 to defray the cost of basic schooling expenses for students from lower-income households in most of our schools⁶.

(b) Specific interventions are also provided to strengthen the ecosystem of support for lower-income families.

(i) We provide socio-emotional guidance and early childhood development advice to lower-income and vulnerable families through programmes such as KidSTART⁷ and ComLink+.⁸

(ii) There are initiatives to strengthen the ecosystem of support to empower less-privileged children. For example, Student Care Centres are located in every primary school to provide a safe, conducive, and structured after-school environment that is especially beneficial for disadvantaged students. Lower-income families receive subsidies to attend these Centres.

(iii) We have also strengthened the partnership between schools and the community to provide more coordinated social support for less-privileged students and their families across government agencies, social service agencies, and volunteers. In addition, under our Families for Life @ Community initiative, families can conveniently access programmes and community support for marriage, parenting, and grandparenting within their neighbourhoods.

16. Enhancing protections for children. Singapore maintains robust legal protections for children, with serious child abuse remaining low at less than three cases per 1,000 children from 2021 to 2024. Beyond the Children and Young Persons Act 1993, the Government has also strengthened protections through tougher penalties for crimes against minors under the Penal Code 1871, Criminal Procedure Code 2010, and Women's Charter 1961,⁹ and introduced an expanded definition of abuse that now includes controlling behaviour. To address risks posed by new and emerging technologies, Singapore has enhanced online safety

by requiring designated social media services to implement child-specific protections such as content filters and account privacy tools.¹⁰

17. There have been few child deaths from abuse over the past decade, but even one death is one too many. Therefore, the Government and community partners have strengthened the broader child protection ecosystem through enhanced protocols and increased public awareness. In November 2025, the Government announced initiatives to further improve clarity on the roles of professionals within the child protection system, foster a stronger learning culture, and provide more structured support for social service practitioners. We are also establishing a new social service coordination centre to better detect, sense-make and connect the dots for cases with multiple touchpoints, including social services, education, preschool, community, and other sectors.

18. These systemic improvements align with Singapore's international commitments. In November 2025, Singapore also signed the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (OPSC), reaffirming our dedication to comprehensive child protection.

B. Women

Recommendations 58, 60, 62, 64, 184, 213-28, 232-6, 238-52, 283 (SDG targets 4.5, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 8.5, 8.8, 10.3, 16.3, 16.7)

19. Women in Singapore continue to make strides in their advancement. Today, men and women in Singapore enjoy comparable opportunities and educational outcomes. Female literacy (aged 15+) is high at around 96%, with the male-female literacy gap narrowing to 2.5% in 2021. Women have consistently represented approximately 50% of university graduates in Singapore since 2013. Singapore ranked 8th worldwide (1st in Asia Pacific) in the 2024 United Nations (UN) Human Development Report's Gender Inequality Index, reflecting low gender inequality in personal empowerment, labour markets, and reproductive health.

20. We continue to work towards fairer and more inclusive outcomes for women. In 2022, the Government published a White Paper setting forth 25 collective action plans to empower, uplift, and support women.¹¹ A subsequent progress report in 2024 found meaningful advances in employment, women's health, and violence protection. Singapore's sixth Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) periodic report¹² was considered by the CEDAW Committee in 2024. The CEDAW Committee commended Singapore on the progress made since our last review in 2017, especially in employment, health, education, and efforts to strengthen legislation and policy to protect women from violence and harm.

21. Increasing participation. Women's representation in leadership positions continues on an upward trend. In 2025, 32 of 99 Members of Parliament (32.3%) are female, exceeding the 27.3% world average. Ten of 40 political officeholders are women. Women comprised 52.8% of the Public Service in 2024. According to the Council for Board Diversity, as of June 2025, women now hold 25.5% of top company board positions, up from 16.3% in 2019.

22. Equal workplace opportunities. Women's employment has grown significantly – from 70.5% to 78.3% among females aged 25 to 64 over the past decade. More women now work in Professional, Managerial, Executive and Technician roles (from 43.1% to 47.2%), particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) occupations (from 29.1% to 35.2%)¹³ The gender pay gap (unadjusted)¹⁴ narrowed from 16.3% in 2018 to 14.3% in 2023.¹⁵

23. The WFA (see paragraph 5 above) will strengthen protections for women against workplace discrimination, as sex, marital and pregnancy status, and caregiving responsibilities are among the protected characteristics. The WFA also requires employers to implement grievance handling processes and to clearly communicate such procedures to their employees.

24. Support for women in society and family. We have kept up support for a sustainable work-caregiving balance. To encourage men to play a greater caregiving role, Government-Paid Paternity Leave (GPPL)¹⁶ was doubled from two to four weeks in April 2025. The new Shared Parental Leave (SPL) scheme was also introduced to provide parents with more time to care for their infants and encourage greater shared parental responsibility. This has been implemented in two phases: From 1 April 2025, parents have six weeks of SPL to share between them, while from 1 April 2026, this will increase to ten weeks of SPL, in addition to maternity and paternity leave. In an encouraging sign of changing societal norms, the GPPL take-up rate has more than doubled from 25% in 2013 to 56% in 2023. In 2024, 83.4% of full-time female employees were provided with at least one type of scheduled flexible work arrangement that they required, as compared to 82.9% in 2018.

25. Reinforced protections against violence. Further to the 2023 amendments to the Women's Charter 1961,¹⁷ Singapore has strengthened protections against harmful online content, to which women are vulnerable. The Online Criminal Harms Act 2023 empowers authorities to take swift action against criminal activities carried out online, and to proactively disrupt harmful cyber activities such as the communication of non-consensual sexually explicit materials. We also remain committed to protecting women from harassment. Pursuant to the 2019 amendments to the Protection from Harassment Act 2014, the specialised Protection from Harassment Court was established in 2021 to offer increased protection and access to civil remedies for victims.¹⁸

26. Strengthened access to justice. Many, typically women, struggle to enforce unpaid maintenance orders. The Maintenance Enforcement Process, which is being implemented in phases from January 2025, established a new unit of Maintenance Enforcement Officers. The Officers are empowered to investigate the parties' finances and help facilitate solutions that are more sustainable through conciliation, thereby increasing access to justice for applicants and reducing the need for repeat enforcement applications.

C. Migrants

Recommendations 300, 302-4, 306-7, 311, 314-6, 318-24 (SDG targets 8.8 and 10.7)

27. Singapore remains an open and connected hub for international businesses and foreign workers. We want businesses and workers to grow and create good job opportunities, and progress in a symbiotic relationship. Work Permit holders (commonly known as migrant workers) make up a sizeable part of Singapore's workforce. Our work pass framework for migrant workers, including migrant domestic workers, is shaped by our context as a small and densely populated city state that needs to carefully balance economic needs, protections of workers, and the ensuring of social cohesion and integration of persons residing in Singapore.

28. Over time, Singapore has made significant progress in improving the well-being of migrant workers, through enhanced healthcare access, improved accommodation standards, and expanded social and recreational options.

29. Legislative protection. Migrant workers are generally accorded the same protections as local workers under our employment laws.¹⁹ To provide better safeguards for workers, compensation limits under the Work Injury Compensation Act 2019 were reviewed and increased from 1 November 2025 onwards. The employment rights of migrant workers, including migrant domestic workers, are also protected under the Employment of Foreign Manpower Act 1990. To ensure that migrant domestic workers use their weekly rest days to form networks of support outside their employers' household, the Government has mandated since 2023 that migrant domestic workers must be provided at least one rest day a month which cannot be compensated away.

30. Healthcare and housing improvements. Singapore has significantly improved migrant workers' access to healthcare and adequate housing. Since 2022, employers of migrant workers living in dormitories or working in the construction, marine shipyard and process sectors are required to purchase and maintain a Primary Care Plan for their workers.²⁰ The plan gives migrant workers unlimited access to primary healthcare at nominal fees of S\$5

(US\$3.85) per visit, or S\$2 (US\$1.54) for each telemedicine consult. Mandatory medical insurance coverage by employers for all migrant workers was also increased from a S\$15,000 (US\$ 11,546) annual claim limit to S\$60,000 (US\$46,185) in 2023, which is sufficient to cover over 99% of medical bills generally incurred. Building on lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic, Singapore expanded the regulatory coverage of the Foreign Employee Dormitories Act 2015²¹ in 2023 and imposed higher living standards for new dormitories from 2021. There is also a transition plan to upgrade existing dormitories to interim standards by 2030 and to the new standards by 2040.²²

31. Education and well-being. Migrant workers' well-being and smooth integration in society is a key concern. First-time migrant workers are required to attend a Settling-in-Programme (SIP) covering their employment rights, local laws and customs, and available support channels. The Government has set up eight Recreation Centres to meet the social and recreational needs of the migrant worker community. The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) also works with partners to organise programmes that fosters appreciation of migrant workers as well as Singapore's cultural diversity. For migrant domestic workers, we conduct regular medical check-ups, house visits, and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) interviews in addition to the SIP. These enhanced touchpoints provide migrant domestic workers with safe channels to raise concerns and gain access to support beyond their employers' households. A 24/7 helpline with native-language counsellors, and a dedicated WhatsApp channel launched in 2024 provide migrant domestic workers with access to reliable information and support.

32. MOM's Migrant Domestic Worker Study in 2021 and Migrant Worker Experience Survey in 2024 showed that over 9 in 10 of these workers were satisfied working and living in Singapore and would recommend Singapore as a place to work. Our survey findings affirm the positive impact of ongoing efforts to uplift standards and enhance support for our migrant workers.

D. Persons with disabilities

Recommendations 59-60, 62, 68, 73, 98,184, 210, 280-2, 284-5, 287-96, (SDG targets 4.5, 4.a, 8.5, 10.2, 11.2, 11.7, 17.18)

33. Singapore is committed to building a caring society where persons with disabilities can participate fully as valued members of society. Our efforts are coordinated through successive Enabling Masterplans (EMPs), with the fourth EMP2030 launched in 2022 after extensive stakeholder consultation, including with persons with disabilities and their caregivers. EMP2030 sets clear and measurable indicators and targets across 14 areas, and progress reports are published annually.

34. Singapore's first Constructive Dialogue with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Committee in 2022. The CRPD Committee welcomed Singapore's progress in implementing the CRPD since ratification in 2013. In particular, the CRPD Committee commended our EMPs, our Universal Design Guide for Public Places and Code on Accessibility in the Built Environment, and our ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled.

35. Lifted Singapore's reservation on Article 25(e) of the CRPD.²³ In May 2024, the Government enhanced the Monetary Authority of Singapore's guidelines,²⁴ allowing Singapore to lift its reservation on Article 25(e) of the CRPD in December 2025.

36. Legislative protection from discrimination. We regularly review our laws, policies, and measures to better implement our obligations under the CRPD across education, employment, and accessibility. The WFA now prohibits disability discrimination.²⁵

37. Employment. Employment outcomes among resident persons with disabilities (aged 15-64) have improved: employment rates increased from 28.2% in 2018/2019 to 33.6% in 2023/2024. More employed persons with disabilities work full-time (79.7% in 2022/2023, up from 74.5% in 2018/2019), and those in full-time employment also earn a higher nominal median gross monthly income from employment (S\$4,242 (US\$3,265) in 2022/2023, up

from S\$2,630 (US\$2,024) in 2018/2019). We recognise that more can be done to improve employment outcomes for persons with disabilities. Since our last review, the Government has developed and executed a multi-pronged strategy with our partners to strengthen the employability of students with disabilities, supported employers with subsidies and workplace modifications or job redesign, and engaged six key sectors²⁶ to create more job opportunities for persons with disabilities. Singapore is also working towards the release of a Tripartite Advisory on Reasonable Accommodations in end-2027, to help employers provide reasonable workplace accommodations for persons with disabilities.

38. Inclusive education. Singapore remains committed to ensuring that all students, including those with special needs, can access quality, affordable education. In preschools, we have piloted the Inclusive Support Programme since 2021 so that children with developmental needs can learn and play alongside their peers. The Programme will be expanded to more preschools from 2026. Inclusion Coordinators are also appointed at every preschool to identify children with potential developmental needs for further assessment and support.

39. 80% of students with disabilities and special educational needs²⁷ currently attend mainstream schools. We foster respect and empathy through Character and Citizenship Education. All mainstream schools are also equipped with basic barrier-free access, with a good spread of schools across the island with full barrier-free accessibility.

40. 20% of students with higher support needs attend government and community-funded Special Education (SPED) schools. A National SPED Curriculum was established in 2024 to increase the quality of education in SPED schools and equip students with the knowledge, skills, and attributes to live independently and contribute meaningfully to society. SPED schools are provided with curriculum-leadership training to develop a total school-based curriculum aligned with the National SPED Curriculum. The Government has also increased funding²⁸ and reduced school fees for SPED schools since 2020,²⁹ while improving professional development support for SPED staff.³⁰

41. Inclusive public spaces and transport. As of 2024, 79.8% of buildings and 99.5% of other public spaces³¹ achieved basic accessibility (target of 85% and 100% respectively by 2030), while 74.2% of persons with disabilities expressed satisfaction with Singapore's public transport system. The Government continues to improve accessibility with updated minimum building design requirements³² that better serve wheelchair users and persons with visual or hearing disabilities.

42. Retirement adequacy. From 2026, the Matched Retirement Savings Scheme³³ will be expanded to include eligible persons with disabilities of all ages, to help them start saving for their retirement earlier.

E. Older persons

Recommendations 60, 64, 68, 96-100 (SDG targets 3.4, 3.8, 10.2, 10.3)

43. Singapore is ageing rapidly – by 2030, one in four Singaporeans is expected to be 65 and above.

44. The inter-agency Ministerial Committee on Ageing coordinates our efforts to address the challenge of population ageing. In 2015, the Committee launched its first Action Plan for Successful Ageing – setting out a blueprint with over 70 initiatives across the health, social welfare, employment, and infrastructure domains. The Action Plan was refreshed in 2023 to address a greater diversity in experiences, aspirations, and needs of older persons.

45. Encouraging active ageing and healthy lifestyles. We want older Singaporeans to have more years of good health. In 2023, we launched the Healthier SG programme to encourage Singapore residents to take proactive steps to manage their health, prevent chronic diseases, and lead healthier lifestyles. We also launched the Age Well SG programme, combining social and health services in local communities for older persons, to proactively care for their needs, and prevent social isolation.

46. There are 226 Active Ageing Centres established island-wide to provide older persons with access to social, physical, and learning activities, along with volunteering opportunities to support their meaningful engagement with the wider society.

47. Enhancing care support and infrastructure. The Government is committed to helping older persons age safely at home by improving infrastructure and care support.

(a) Housing. Through the Enhancement for Active Seniors 2.0 initiative, we are enhancing homes with older person-friendly features including lowered bathroom entrance kerbs and foldable U-profile grab bars.

(b) Infrastructure. In 2024, we delivered the first Community Care Apartments – a new housing model that pairs older person-friendly housing with customisable on-site social activities and care services. We have also launched the “Age Well Neighbourhoods” at the 2025 National Day Rally to provide older persons with comprehensive care support at their current homes. We will also develop therapeutic gardens across the island by 2027.

(c) Services. We are integrating services for our older persons through the Integrated Community Care Provider, which will serve as a dedicated point of contact to assess and holistically plan for the long-term care needs of older persons. This provides more seamless care than the present model, in which older persons may have to regularly approach multiple care providers. Shared Stay-in Senior Caregiving Services are also now widely available after successful trials, a service which aims to provide more options for older persons to age confidently in the community and better support families with caregiving needs. Under this model, caregiving staff provide basic support with daily living tasks, meals, housekeeping, and social activities to a group of individuals living in the same residence/facility, mirroring how caregivers at home support their loved ones.

48. Employment. Providing employment to older persons remains critical. Their labour force participation rate has been increasing over the past decade – 86.0% of residents aged 50-54 and 50.5% of those aged 65–69 were in the labour force in 2024, up from 81.8% in 2014, and 41.2% in 2014, respectively. To help those who wish to remain employed in their later years, Singapore plans to raise the retirement and re-employment³⁴ ages from 63 and 68 today, to 65 and 70 by 2030. The Government will also work closely with partners to provide career matching and mid-career reskilling programmes to help older persons transition into new roles and industries. The Government also supports employment of older persons by providing wage subsidies and promoting flexible work arrangements.

49. Universal retirement savings scheme. Singapore’s Central Provident Fund (CPF) is a mandatory social security savings scheme that enables Singaporeans and permanent residents to set aside funds for their retirement, housing, and healthcare needs. To help older workers save more and strengthen their retirement adequacy, the CPF contribution rates³⁵ for older workers aged 55 to 70 have been increased every year since 2022. We reached the target contribution rates for older workers aged 65 to 70 in 2024. When the increases are fully implemented by around 2030, those aged above 55 to 60 will have the same CPF contribution rates as younger workers.

F. Lower-income groups

Recommendations 185, 188-90 (SDG targets 1.3, 8.3, 10.2, 10.4)

50. In the face of rapid changes in the global economy as well as technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Singapore continues to ensure that we reinforce support for those in the lower-income groups and help them adapt to new economic challenges. We remain committed to maintaining social mobility for all segments of society.

51. Promoting upskilling and raising incomes. We continue helping lower-wage workers upgrade their skills and earn more through tripartite partnerships. The Workfare Skills Support and Workfare Income Supplement schemes³⁶ were enhanced in January 2025, raising the qualifying monthly income ceiling from S\$2,500 to S\$3,000 (US\$2,309). This helps more workers access support. The Progressive Wage Model – which links salary increases to skills upgrading and productivity improvements – was expanded in 2021 to cover more sectors and

occupations. Today, about 150,000 lower-wage workers are covered by the Progressive Wage Model and benefit from Model's structured approach to wage progression tied to skills upgrading and career advancement. The Singapore Government allocated S\$9 billion (US\$ 6.93 billion) to the Progressive Wage Credit Scheme since 2021 (2022–2026 period), co-funding up to 50% of wage increases.

52. Older persons who have less in retirement savings because of lower incomes during their working life may benefit from the Silver Support Scheme, a quarterly cash supplement. These quarterly supplements were increased in 2025 and have supplemented the retirement income of around 290,000 Singaporeans aged 65 and above.

53. Taken together, these efforts have helped Singapore to successfully reduce income inequality. Singapore's Gini coefficient (after government taxes and transfers) reached a historic low of 0.364 in 2024, from 0.409 in 2015. We remain committed to uplifting lower-wage workers, supporting upskilling and re-skilling, and building a more inclusive society.

54. Supporting lower-income families. Those who need help with daily expenses can tap on the Government's ComCare scheme.³⁷ In the last few years, the Government has regularly updated its assessment of the basic living needs required and made online applications easier, so that our assistance is responsive and accessible. In addition, as lower-income families often face multiple, intersecting challenges, the Government has introduced the ComLink+ scheme³⁸ to provide support that seeks to empower them over the long-term – with dedicated family coaches and volunteer befrienders proactively reaching out to lower-income families with children. They support families over the long term, co-develop action plans tailored to their needs, and coach and motivate them towards achieving their aspirations. Families can also receive financial top-ups when they work towards specific goals in preschool education, employment, debt clearance, and home ownership.

G. Inclusive digitalisation

55. The Government is committed to ensuring that all citizens can access digital Government services. Our “Digital First, but not Digital Only” approach sets out the goal of making online government services more accessible and inclusive, while ensuring that those who need in-person support can still receive assistance at physical service touchpoints in the community.

56. Building digital inclusion through community partnerships. Central to our approach is the Digital for Life³⁹ movement, launched in 2021 to ensure no Singaporean is left behind in our digital transformation. This movement has brought together over 300 organizations across public, private, and social sectors to teach digital skills and promote digital well-being.

57. We offer targeted support for vulnerable populations. The Seniors Go Digital programme has helped over 400,000 older persons learn digital skills, while initiatives like the Mobile Access for Seniors scheme have provided vulnerable older persons with smartphones, training, and social reconnection. These programmes recognise that digital literacy is not just about technical skills but about empowering every Singaporean to participate fully in our digital society. The DigitalAccess@Home scheme, enhanced in 2023, ensures that lower-income households have access to subsidised internet and digital devices, removing financial barriers to digital participation.

V. Building a more cohesive society

58. Singapore's continued progress hinges on our national unity and cohesion. To strengthen our foundations and expand our common space, we uphold the core principles of meritocracy, secularism, and multi-racialism, whilst furthering efforts to prevent discrimination. This requires a careful balancing of individual and other competing rights to preserve social harmony.

59. To reinforce social cohesion and resilience, the Government has stepped up efforts to expand opportunities for public engagement. The 2022 Forward SG consultation exercise was a key effort in the period under review. This 18-month long exercise engaged more than

200,000 Singaporeans to identify common ideas, hopes and aspirations for Singapore's future. Contributors from all walks of life participated to redefine Singapore's "social compact," i.e., the shared understanding of our individual roles and responsibilities towards each other, and our common values and aspirations as a people. Key elements identified as priorities for building a more cohesive society included the creation of more opportunities for our people to pursue more diverse aspirations, greater assurance that Singaporeans would be taken care of at each life stage, and more collective responsibility from all stakeholders.

60. Beyond Forward SG, Singapore has institutionalised co-creation with new mechanisms like the Alliances for Action (AfAs) initiative, which brings the public and private sectors together to develop solutions to national challenges, ranging from economic growth and sustainability to the integration of foreign professionals. Examples of AfAs that have contributed to concrete policy changes include the AfA on Lower-Wage Workers, whose recommendations led to, amongst others, the introduction of progressive wages for lower-wage workers in Singapore. The Singapore Government Partnerships Office, established in 2024, has also contributed to concrete policy changes via co-creation among citizens, communities, and organisations, such as the Community Care Apartments model for older persons. These efforts build a collaborative spirit and focus on our shared future.

A. Protecting social harmony and racial and religious diversity

Recommendations 59, 61, 63, 65, 69-72, 101-6, 298 (SDG targets 10.2, 10.3)

61. We do not take racial and religious harmony in Singapore for granted. Even as we continue to nurture our national identity, Singapore's multi-racial and multi-religious context requires us to take an active approach to ensure social cohesion. We adopt a two-pronged approach consisting of a robust legal framework to combat discrimination and preserve social harmony in Singapore, as well as programmes and policies that foster mutual understanding across different racial and religious communities. As a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), we submitted our combined second to fourth periodic reports in November 2025.⁴⁰

62. Robust legal framework. Under our Constitution, all persons are equal before the law and entitled to equal protection. The responsibility of the Government to care for the interests of racial and religious minorities is also enshrined in our Constitution. Laws such as the Maintenance of Racial Harmony Act 2025 (RHA)⁴¹ and the Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act 1990 enable the Government to act against threats to our racial and religious harmony respectively. Passed in February 2025, the RHA consolidates all existing race-related offences and clarifies the scope of such offences by introducing more objective descriptions. It also introduces, among others, softer measures to encourage reconciliation and better understanding between races.

63. Fostering social cohesion. Besides legislation, targeted programmes help to foster social cohesion. These activities are conducted at the community level to ensure group impact. For example, in every local constituency, there are Racial and Religious Harmony Circles that facilitate dialogue and collaboration between ethnic and religious leaders to build trust, promote understanding, and strengthen social cohesion. These grassroots Circles also ensure more diverse representation, regular impactful programmes, enhanced member capabilities, and greater public visibility. NGOs are also involved. OnePeople.sg organises the annual youth-driven HarmonyWorks! Conference, which fosters discussions on race relations trends and issues. OnePeople.sg also organises cultural events and workshops that help create safe spaces for dialogue on racial and religious matters.

64. The Character and Citizenship Education syllabus in our schools aims to develop good character, resilience and social wellbeing, active citizenship, and future-readiness in students. Students at secondary and pre-university level discuss a wide range of contemporary issues as part of their education, such as casual racism, mental health, and cyber wellness. These issues are current, relevant to our students' life experiences and provide authentic contexts for the learning of values and for socio-emotional development.

65. The effectiveness of Singapore’s “whole-of-society” approach to social cohesion has been internationally recognised. In the 2024 Gallup World Poll on racial/ethnic minorities, 93% of Singaporean respondents said that Singapore was a “good place to live in” for racial minorities, the highest among the 134 countries/territories polled. A 2023 Pew Research Centre survey analysis also recognised Singapore’s religious diversity as “remarkable on a global scale” while noting our “high levels of interreligious tolerance and acceptance”.

66. Strengthening bonds and harmony among neighbours. Singapore is a densely populated city-state. Differences in lifestyle, schedules, and preferences can sometimes give rise to disputes between neighbours. Our guiding principle is to minimise such disputes by strengthening community bonds and fostering positive relationships between neighbours. To build a cohesive community, Government agencies and grassroots organisations partner to create common spaces for residents to come together, foster friendships, and build trust. Neighbours who are on friendly terms will naturally practise greater consideration and have more patience and empathy towards one another.

67. When disputes between neighbours arise, affected parties have access to recourse via a clear escalation process. If direct neighbour communications fail, community leader mediation, public agency facilitation, and finally legal recourse may be sought.

B. Equality and non-discrimination

Recommendations 58-9, 65-6 (SDG targets 10.2, 10.3)

68. Since our last review, Singapore has made significant strides in equality and non-discrimination through legislative reforms.

69. Protection of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. Following extensive engagement with religious leaders, LGBT groups, community leaders, youth, and members of the public, the Government introduced a bill to repeal section 377A of the Penal Code 1871 – a colonial-era law which criminalised consensual sex between men. After extensive parliamentary debate, Parliament voted to repeal section 377A, and this took effect on 3 January 2023. Simultaneously, Parliament enacted Article 156 of the Constitution to clarify that it is for the legislature to define, regulate, protect, safeguard, support, foster and promote marriage.⁴²

70. This balanced approach shows Singapore’s commitment to respond to changes in social attitudes, while upholding the consensus of society. It has allowed us to accommodate divergent interests and strike the right balance for our society on deeply held, even conflicting, views on important issues of moral conscience.

71. Preventing discrimination in the workplace. The WFA is our first workplace anti-discrimination law. It reinforces fair and merit-based workplace norms so that all employees can develop their potential and thrive in all workplaces. The WFA prohibits employers from making adverse employment decisions on the basis of certain protected characteristics⁴³ which account for more than 95% of discrimination cases received by MOM and the Tripartite Alliance for Fair Employment Practices. The WFA also prohibits employers from retaliating against employees who raise grievances. In addition, the Workplace Fairness (Dispute Resolution) Bill⁴⁴ augments the WFA to include provisions for workers to seek remedies via private civil claims if they have faced workplace discrimination.

72. These legal developments demonstrate Singapore’s proactive approach to fighting discrimination, protecting vulnerable populations, and promoting equality.

C. Criminal justice and the rule of law

Recommendations 183 (SDG target 16.3)

73. A firm commitment to the rule of law. Since our last review, Singapore has implemented legislative reforms to modernise our criminal justice system and strengthen the rule of law. The Courts (Civil and Criminal Justice) Reform Act 2021 introduced groundbreaking changes to our judicial system by establishing a permanent framework for

digital court proceedings, including remote hearings, making justice more accessible. In 2021, the Penal Code 1871 was amended following a review of the sentencing framework for sexual and hurt offences. These amendments further strengthened protection for minors⁴⁵ and modernised terminology to make our laws easier to understand.

74. Expanding access to justice. We established the Public Defender's Office in 2022. This fully government-funded department provides criminal defence aid to eligible citizens and permanent residents facing most non-capital criminal charges and who cannot afford legal representation. As of December 2024, more than 1,800 applicants were eligible for aid. The Office partners with Pro Bono SG, a registered charity and wholly owned subsidiary of the Law Society of Singapore, to provide criminal defence aid. This allows more people to obtain proper legal representation. The Government also established an inter-agency Sentencing Advisory Panel in 2022 to promote consistent and transparent sentencing through published guidelines.

75. The Criminal Procedure (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2024 represents our most comprehensive criminal justice reform in recent years, introducing enhancements to protect the public and strengthen procedural fairness. This Act improves forensic examinations, introduced enhanced sentences for the most dangerous offenders, and allows the Court to grant persons facing relatively minor charges the option of release on personal bond before trial.

76. Our rehabilitation and re-integration programmes have helped Singapore to maintain one of the world's lowest two-year recidivism rates – at 21.3% for the latest 2022 release cohort. Inmates are provided psychology-based correctional programmes, family support initiatives, skills training, and may be placed on community-based programmes towards the tail-end of their sentence.

77. These reforms demonstrate Singapore's commitment to a fair justice system that is responsive to our society's evolving needs and ably protects society while treating everyone fairly.

D. Freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of expression

Recommendations 162, 171, 182 (SDG target 16.10)

78. In Singapore, every citizen has a constitutionally-protected right to freedom of speech, expression, association, and peaceful assembly. These freedoms must be exercised responsibly to protect our social harmony and stability. We protect and enhance these constitutional freedoms, while promoting meaningful civic engagement. We also safeguard against foreign interference to ensure that Singapore's political discourse reflects our people's authentic voices and values.

79. The Speakers' Corner at Hong Lim Park is an established public space for Singaporeans to express their views without the need for a police permit. It has been a platform used for civic engagement and expression since 2000, hosting numerous community events, advocacy campaigns, and peaceful assemblies.

80. Given the growing threat of foreign interference in countries' domestic politics, the Foreign Interference (Countermeasures) Act 2021 (FICA) was enacted in 2021. FICA⁴⁶ empowers the authorities to counter hostile information campaigns and foreign interference conducted through local proxies, ensuring that politics in Singapore remain for Singaporeans to decide. FICA also includes comprehensive safeguards to protect legitimate political expression and does not apply to Singaporeans expressing their own views or foreigners engaging in commentary, reporting or research that is open, transparent, and attributed.

VI. Building a more resilient society

81. Amid an increasingly complex global landscape marked by rapid technological transformation, climate change, geopolitical tensions, and evolving social dynamics, we aim

to build a resilient society where every person is equipped to respond to challenges and continue to realise their potential.

A. Employment and skills

Recommendations 107, 109 (SDG targets 4.4, 8.3, 8.8)

82. Since our last review, Singapore has continued efforts to build an inclusive, skilled, and resilient workforce that can adapt to rapid economic transformation and global challenges.

83. Singapore has introduced protections for platform workers, through the Platform Workers Act 2024 which came into effect in January 2025. This Act requires platform operators and platform workers to ensure safety during work, and provides platform workers with work injury compensation, social security savings (i.e., CPF) contributions, and a formal framework for representation. This was ahead of the International Labour Organization's deliberations on new international labour standards for platform workers, which is taking place from June 2025 to June 2026.

84. Under SkillsFuture,⁴⁷ we have continued to provide support for lifelong learning and skill mastery to enhance workforce resilience. In addition to broad-based training support for all workers, we have stepped up support under the SkillsFuture Level-Up Programme targeting Singaporeans aged 40 and above who may face a higher risk of skills obsolescence, having completed their first work-ready qualifications many years ago. Under this Programme, Singaporeans aged 40 and older are provided with a S\$4,000 (US\$3,079) SkillsFuture Credit top-up, access to full-time diploma programmes, and a new Mid-Career Training Allowance of up to S\$3,000 (US\$2,309) a month for intensive reskilling. We have also enhanced support for firms to embark on enterprise and workforce transformation, including provisions for employers to redesign jobs, upskill workers and redeploy them to these roles.

85. These reforms reflect Singapore's proactive approach to building workforce resilience in an era of rapid technological change and economic uncertainty.

B. Climate change

Recommendations 111, 113-4, 117, 119 (SDG targets 13.1-3)

86. Climate change is a serious challenge for Singapore as its impact could threaten the health, safety, and well-being of our population, making urgent climate action essential for protecting human rights. By 2100, the sea level around Singapore may rise by up to 1.15 meters and potentially up to five meters with high tides and storm surges. As a low-lying small island nation, about 30 percent of Singapore's area is less than 5 meters above mean sea level. The annual mean temperature is also expected to rise by up to 5°C by the end of this century, with more extreme wet and dry conditions.

87. Since our last review, Singapore has strengthened our policies to help safeguard the right to health and a safe living environment. The Singapore Green Plan 2030 (SGP2030) is our roadmap to advance sustainable development in line with our international commitments. In implementing SGP2030, the Government aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate-related health risks, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation, while adapting to the effects of climate change.

88. Reducing emissions and improving energy efficiency. Singapore is accelerating our transition to a low-carbon economy to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, despite being alternative energy-disadvantaged. By doing our part to reduce global emissions, we can safeguard a liveable environment for future generations, while improving local air quality, reducing respiratory health risks and creating a cleaner living environment. Singapore submitted our 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution in February 2025, and was one of the first countries to do so.

89. Protecting our coasts. As a low-lying island nation, coastal and flood protection measures are essential to protect communities from flooding and related damage to lives and property. We have already enhanced drainage systems to prevent flooding. To facilitate future planning, we established a Coastal Protection and Flood Resilience Institute in 2023 to promote research and the development of smart solutions most suitable for Singapore's context. Work on a new Coastal Protection Bill is underway to support the implementation of coastal protection plans. Notably, this proposed legislation is intended to enable the Government to delineate coastal protection responsibilities, safeguard land for coastal protection measures, and ensure compliance with coastal protection standards. Active community participation is an important aspect of the development and implementation of coastal protection solutions, with the public engaged through initiatives such as "Our Coastal Conversation"⁴⁸ and "Riding the Tides".⁴⁹

90. Helping communities adapt to climate change. The Government has adopted a holistic approach that protects everyone from climate-related risks, including the most vulnerable groups such as the young, older persons, and migrant workers. To enhance community resilience to heat, we have been issuing heat stress advisories since 2023 for the general public undertaking prolonged outdoor activities as well as populations more vulnerable to heat, such as outdoor workers. These advisories outline precautions that individuals or businesses should take during times of high heat to prevent and manage heat stress risks among residents and workers. The Government has also developed a comprehensive response strategy for heatwaves, including setting up cooling spaces across community centres, residents' committees, and selected indoor sports halls throughout Singapore. These spaces will provide refuge during periods of extreme heat, ensuring that every resident has access to shelter and protection of their right to health.

91. Working together for sustainability. The GreenGov.SG initiative is the Government's push to set the tone for the wider national sustainability agenda by setting the goal for the public sector to reach net zero emissions around 2045. Complementing this, the Go Green SG movement rallies citizens, organisations, and the community to take collective action. To support community initiatives, S\$50 million (US\$38 million) has been set aside through the SG Eco Fund.⁵⁰ In addition, the Climate Youth Development Programme was set up by the Government to promote climate action amongst youth – by helping young people connect with policymakers and industry experts, as well as providing developmental opportunities. Since our last review, the Ministry of Education has put in place the Eco Stewardship Programme in all schools, a programme which nurtures sustainability-conscious habits from young.⁵¹

92. Singapore will continue to strengthen community resilience against climate change through a collaborative, whole-of-society approach to ensure that our people's rights to health, life, adequate housing, and a safe living environment are protected.

C. Safe and secure online space

93. Singapore recognises that in our increasingly digital world, ensuring fair access to digital opportunities while protecting our people from online harms is fundamental to building a cohesive and resilient society. Since our last review, we have strengthened our laws and expanded community-focused initiatives to ensure that going digital serves as a force for inclusion, not division.

94. Comprehensive protection against digital and telecommunications threats. Singapore believes that every individual should be able to access information and communicate safely online. Scams have become a global scourge, and we have a comprehensive approach to fighting them. Anti-scam measures include the mandatory Singapore SMS Sender ID Registry⁵² introduced in 2023; the consolidation of SMSes from government agencies under a single 'gov.sg' SMS sender ID;⁵³ the Shared Responsibility Framework⁵⁴ launched in 2024; the ScamShield mobile application;⁵⁵ and features rolled out in 2024 that enable mobile phone users to block all incoming international calls and SMSes. Through our commitment to fighting scams, Singapore has blocked over 117 million potential scam phone calls and 50 million potential scam SMSes in 2024. In addition, the establishment of the Anti-Scam

Command demonstrates our commitment to disrupt scam syndicates, recover victim funds and safeguard the public against scams.

95. The Online Criminal Harms Act 2023 has measures that enable the Government to restrict or block online activities that are criminal or are used to facilitate or abet crimes. These include criminal offences which have an online nexus to Singapore and activities that adversely affect national security, social harmony, and individual safety.

96. Enhancing online safety. It is also important to protect our people from harmful online content. Singapore has taken an outcome-driven approach to promote online safety through a series of measures. Our laws, such as the Online Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2022, empower the Government to deal with harmful online content such as those promoting violence or self-harm, showing child sexual exploitation, or likely to cause racial or religious conflict. This is supported by Codes of Practice for Online Safety, which require designated Online Communication Services such as social media services or app distribution services to implement systems and processes to mitigate the risk of exposure to harmful online content for Singapore users, especially children. This includes upstream safeguards such as content moderation processes, community guidelines, and reporting mechanisms, as well as measures to ensure that young users do not access age-inappropriate content.

97. The Online Safety (Relief and Accountability) Act 2025 was enacted in November 2025 to provide additional avenues of recourse for victims of specified online harms, such as online harassment or intimate image abuse.⁵⁶ This Act establishes an Online Safety Commission to help victims. If an online harm is reported, the Online Safety Commission can issue directions to perpetrators, administrators of groups or pages, as well as platforms, to stop or remedy the harm. The Online Safety Commission can also require platforms to provide the identity information of perpetrators suspected of causing online harm, allowing them to be held accountable. This Act also introduces clear statutory duties for online actors and provides for civil remedies through the Courts for breaches of these duties. Additionally, this Act affords victims a more accessible mechanism to obtain information about the identity of wrongdoers, by empowering the Online Safety Commission to seek and obtain such information and disclose it to victims.

98. Strengthening personal data protections. We ensure that our data protection framework remains updated and fit-for-purpose amidst new technology developments and global regulatory trends. In 2024, the Personal Data Protection Commission released two Advisory Guidelines on the Personal Data Protection Act 2012 covering (a) the Use of Personal Data in AI Recommendation and Decision Systems, and (b) Children's Personal Data in the Digital Environment. These guidelines ensure that we maintain strong protections for personal data, including children's data, to build a trusted digital ecosystem in which all can participate with confidence. This demonstrates our proactive approach to enhancing data protection safeguards for our people when they interact with new technologies.

99. Promoting digital literacy and responsible use. Beyond legal measures, we recognise that a truly resilient digital society requires our people to be informed and responsible. We teach this from a young age by including digital literacy and technological skills across the school curriculum. Guidelines and age-appropriate measures help schools and students use AI safely and responsibly. Character and Citizenship Education lessons, part of the national curriculum, nurture positive values and behaviours both online and offline. Professional learning opportunities are provided to educators to develop their digital and AI competencies to better guide students in developing digital literacy and technological skills. These include courses that incorporate the use of educational technology, as well as Learning Communities where like-minded teachers from across schools support one another in deepening their knowledge and practice. Furthermore, the Smart Nation Educator Fellowship was launched in 2025 to develop amongst educators a pool of experts with deeper expertise on supporting students' development of digital skills and championing the relevant pedagogical strategies across the fraternity. The InfoComm Media Development Authority of Singapore has developed a Digital Skills for Life framework and works with partners to help people learn digital skills. The National Library Board also supports Singaporeans in becoming careful consumers of information, building resilience against misinformation and online manipulation through its public education programme – Source, Understand, Research,

Evaluate (S.U.R.E.) – which teaches people to critically evaluate information online and offline.

D. Trafficked persons

Recommendations 51, 143-149, 153-158, 266, 269-271, 273 (SDG targets 5.2, 8.7 and 16.2)

100. Singapore remains committed to fighting trafficking in persons (TIP) and protecting victims under the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Guided by the National Approach against TIP (2016-2026), Singapore adopts a “4P” strategy: (a) Prosecuting traffickers under the Prevention of Human Trafficking Act 2014; (b) Protecting victims by removing barriers to legal redress and assistance; (c) Preventing trafficking through public awareness; and (d) Partnering with stakeholders including INTERPOL, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and local civil society organisations providing victim care and support. All victims of alleged trafficking, regardless of nationality, are offered various forms of assistance such as food, shelter, language translation, psychological assistance, and temporary job placement. With these efforts, Singapore has maintained a Tier 1 ranking in the U.S. Department of State’s TIP Reports since 2020.

E. Human rights treaties

Recommendations 2-3, 8, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 24, 27-8, 38-9, 45

101. Singapore takes our treaty obligations and engagements with treaty bodies seriously. We review our reservations periodically and welcome the sharing of good practices on implementing human rights with other States. We have implemented the recommendations accepted in our 1st, 2nd and 3rd UPRs. The IMC-HR regularly reviews whether Singapore should accede to additional human rights treaties. As mentioned in paragraph 18 above, Singapore signed the OPSC in November 2025, and we are actively working towards ratification.

VII. Conclusion

102. Our performance across various international rankings speaks to the good progress being made. Singapore is ranked 13th in the UN’s 2025 Human Development Index; 2nd for order and security, 16th overall in the World Justice Project’s 2025 Rule of Law Index; and 1st in Gallup’s 2025 Global Safety Report for public safety and law and order. In the 2025 World Justice Project Rule of Law Index, Singapore’s civil and criminal frameworks were ranked 6th and 8th respectively for effective enforcement.

103. We will not rest on our laurels and will continue to uplift the lives of our people in a much more complex world. We will continue to strengthen bonds of mutual support and shared responsibility, which is the community spirit essential for Singapore to write our next chapter. We remain firm in our commitment to leave no one behind in our journey toward a more inclusive, cohesive, and resilient society.

Notes

¹ According to the 2024 Gallup Law and Order Index, Singapore was ranked as the second-safest country in the world, and the safest in the Asia-Pacific, with nearly two-thirds (65.4%) of respondents in Singapore rating racial and religious harmony in Singapore as “high” or “very high”.

² Based on the Singapore Census of Population in 2020, 31.1% of residents identify as Buddhist, 15.6% as Muslim, 18.9% as Christian, 5% as Hindu, among others.

³ The WFA is scheduled to take effect in end-2027. The characteristics protected under the WFA are age; nationality; sex; marital and pregnancy status; caregiving responsibilities; race, religious and

- language ability; and disability and mental health condition.
- 4 The IMC-HR, comprising 12 government agencies and chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, facilitates coordination, review, and outreach on Singapore’s human rights policies.
 - 5 Refer to CRC/C/SGP/6 for the full report.
 - 6 The MOE Financial Assistance Scheme and Independent School Bursary will help defray the cost of basic schooling for lower-income students attending government and government-aided schools, specialised schools, and independent and specialised independent schools.
 - 7 The KidSTART programme was introduced by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) in 2016 as a vehicle to better support children from lower-income and vulnerable families. Trained officers come alongside these families, even in the prenatal stage, to support the expectant mother and impart knowledge on health, nutrition, and child development. This coaching continues after the child is born, all the way through preschool.
 - 8 The ComLink+ programme pairs lower-income families with dedicated family coaches who journey with families over the longer term, as they work to make progress towards stability, self-reliance, and social mobility.
 - 9 Amendments to the Penal Code 1871 in 2019 and 2021 (a) introduced new offences to better protect minors; (b) increased penalties for certain offences, such as the maximum penalties for certain sexual offences; and (c) clarified the scope of “child abuse materials” to cover a minor’s genital region, buttocks or breasts whether exposed or covered. Amendments made to the Criminal Procedure Code 2010 in 2024 have introduced the court-supervised Sentence for Enhanced Public Protection, which allows for the continued detention of offenders who commit grave violent or sexual crimes and who are assessed to continue to pose a substantial threat. In addition, the 2023 amendments to the Women’s Charter 1961 empower victim-survivors to better protect themselves from future harms, including emotional or psychological abuse commonly designated as forms of “coercive control”.
 - 10 Our measures to enhance online safety are detailed in a subsequent section of the report: (*Section VI – A Resilient Society*).
 - 11 The White Paper was developed with insights drawn from nationwide conversations engaging nearly 6,000 participants.
 - 12 Refer to CEDAW/C/SGP/6 for the full report.
 - 13 Figures show the percentage increase in women’s employment in the professional and STEM fields over the past decade (2014 – 2024). STEM roles refer to Science & Engineering Professionals, Health Professionals, Information & Communications Technology Professionals, Physical & Engineering Science Associate Professionals, Health Associate Professionals, and Information & Communications Technicians.
 - 14 The unadjusted gender pay gap refers to the overall difference in the median income of women and men. This metric does not factor in gender differences in productive characteristics between women and men – such as age, education, occupation, industry, years of work experience, discrimination, etc. – and is therefore seen as a broad measure.
 - 15 Among full-time resident employees aged 25 to 54.
 - 16 The GPPL was first introduced in 2013.
 - 17 See endnote 9, above.
 - 18 The Court adopts a simplified process, at lower cost, for certain types of applications. Since operations commenced, we have seen a significant increase in the number of protection order applications – 631 applications received in 2024, up from 520 in 2022.
 - 19 Notably, under the Employment Act 1968, Workplace Safety and Health Act 2006, Work Injury Compensation Act 2019, Employment Agencies Act 1958, and WFA.
 - 20 The PCP provides migrant workers with access to unlimited acute or chronic medical consultations and treatments (in-person and via telemedicine), as well as scheduled transportation between dormitories and medical centres within PCP zones.
 - 21 Instead of covering only dormitories with at least 1,000 beds, all dormitories with seven or more beds are now subject to the regulations within the Foreign Employees Dormitories Act 2015, significantly increasing the number of regulated dormitories from about 50 to 1,500 facilities.
 - 22 The improved dormitory standards will enhance liveability for migrant workers with more spacious rooms (≥4.2 sqm living space per resident) and in-room Wi-Fi coverage, whilst reducing the risk of infectious disease transmission through requirements such as a room occupancy cap of 12 residents, en-suite toilets and improved standards for isolation facilities.
 - 23 Article 25(e) of the CRPD prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in the provision of health insurance, and life insurance where such insurance is permitted by national law, which shall be provided in a fair and reasonable manner.
 - 24 Specifically, the Monetary Authority of Singapore’s Guidelines on Fair Dealing – Board and Senior Management Responsibilities for Delivering Fair Dealing Outcomes to Customers. The guidelines incorporated the principle of non-discriminatory treatment towards persons with disabilities. As part

- of MAS' ongoing supervision of insurers, MAS monitors and closely engages insurers on their implementation of the guidelines.
- ²⁵ See endnote 3, above.
- ²⁶ The six sectors identified to help promote more inclusive hiring are: food and beverage services; retail trade; information and communications; health and social services; transport and storage; and financial and insurance services.
- ²⁷ In schools' context, we frequently use the term 'Special Educational Needs' or SEN to refer to children with disabilities as well as other children with learning needs. This is because in our schools, support is given to all children with learning needs who may need additional help, which includes those who are suspected to have disabilities, i.e., pre-disability diagnoses.
- ²⁸ From FY2024, funding has been increased in phases to raise the average salaries of trained teachers and teacher aides (TAs) in SPED schools. Between 2024 to 2026, SPED classroom teachers can receive salary increases of up to 12%, and TAs can receive an increase of up to 15%, depending on their experience, competencies, job role, and work performance. By 2026, SPED classroom teachers and TAs can expect to receive monthly salaries ranging from S\$3,000 to over S\$7,000 (US\$5,441), and S\$2,000 to over S\$4,000 (US\$3,109), respectively.
- ²⁹ As of 2024, about 50% of the SPED school students pay similar fees to the mainstream school students. SPED schools charging higher fees have reduced their fees by up to 60% to make it more affordable for families from July 2025. About 3,500 students stand to benefit from the reduction in fees.
- ³⁰ In 2025, the Teachers' Conference and ExCEL Fest, a biennial event organised by MOE, saw a threefold increase of 593 to 1,955 SPED participants. 2025 also marked a milestone as SPED schools shared their good practices at the conference for the first time. Since 2023, milestone programmes have been extended to SPED staff to hone their leadership and instructional skills.
- ³¹ Includes parks and park connectors, neighbourhood, and town centres, as well as other privately-owned public spaces, e.g. promenades and pedestrian malls.
- ³² The sixth revision of the "Code on Accessibility in the Built Environment" was released in 2025.
- ³³ Launched in 2021, the Matched Retirement Savings Scheme helps eligible senior Singapore Citizens with lower retirement savings to save more for their retirement by providing a dollar-for-dollar matching grant to cash top-ups made to their Central Provident Fund (CPF) Retirement Account.
- ³⁴ Under the Retirement and Re-employment Act, employers must offer re-employment to eligible employees who reach the minimum retirement age, up to the re-employment age, to continue their employment in the organisation.
- ³⁵ Singaporeans and Permanent Residents aged above 55 years and earning at least S\$750/month (US\$578/month) make a contribution of between 5 to 17% of their monthly income to their CPF Retirement Account, while their employers contribute between 7.5 to 15.5% of an employee's income to the employee's CPF Retirement Account. This strengthens our older persons' retirement adequacy.
- ³⁶ The Workfare Skills Support scheme encourages lower-wage workers to undergo upskilling and reskilling that helps to improve employability, while the Workfare Income Supplement scheme helps to encourage eligible workers to work and build up their personal CPF savings by providing cash payments and additional CPF contributions.
- ³⁷ ComCare provides financial assistance and social support to individuals and families who need help with their daily living expenses. The support is provided not only to households that require temporary, short-to-medium term financial assistance, but also to those who are permanently unable to work and have little or no family support.
- ³⁸ ComLink+ supports lower-income families with children residing in public rental housing, and lower-income families not living in public rental housing but are eligible for KidSTART or have school-going children at risk of long-term absenteeism. It aims to uplift them towards stability, self-reliance, and social mobility.
- ³⁹ The Digital for Life movement was launched in 2021 to build a digitally inclusive society where digital technologies and opportunities are accessible to all, with no one left behind.
- ⁴⁰ Refer to CERD/C/SGP/2-4 for the full report.
- ⁴¹ The RHA was passed by Parliament on 4 February 2025 and is expected to take effect in 2026.
- ⁴² Presently defined in Singapore as a union between a man and a woman.
- ⁴³ See endnote 3, above.
- ⁴⁴ This Bill was passed by Parliament on 4 November 2025.
- ⁴⁵ Previously referred to in paragraph 16 of this report.
- ⁴⁶ Under FICA, directions can be issued to various entities such as social media services, relevant electronic services, and internet access services to require them to help the authorities investigate and counter hostile information campaigns that are of foreign origin. The Act also introduces countermeasures covering possible vectors of foreign interference (e.g., donations, volunteers, leadership, membership, and affiliations) against specified individuals or organisations which the

- authorities assess to be at risk. There are appeal mechanisms under FICA which allow recipients of designations or directions to challenge their designations or the directions issued.
- ⁴⁷ SkillsFuture is a national skills training movement introduced in 2015 to provide Singaporeans with the opportunities to develop to their fullest potential throughout life, regardless of their starting points.
- ⁴⁸ A series of community dialogue sessions to engage and source for ideas from the public and stakeholders as the Government develops potential coastal protection measures.
- ⁴⁹ Singapore's first public coastal protection exhibition.
- ⁵⁰ The USD\$38.4 million SG Eco Fund was launched in November 2020 to support ground-up projects that involve the community and advance environmental sustainability in Singapore, including climate change, waste reduction, as well as the conservation of nature and biodiversity.
- ⁵¹ Through the Eco Stewardship Programme 4Cs framework – Curriculum, Campus, Culture and Community – sustainability education is integrated into students' learning in school to provide hands-on and applied learning opportunities, and educators are supported with professional learning and networking opportunities to further sustainability education.
- ⁵² The mandatory SMS Sender ID Registry ensures that only verified organisations can send SMSes under their unique, registered alphanumeric sender ID. Telecom operators will otherwise, by default, block messages from unregistered IDs, or mark messages as "Likely-SCAM". This protects users from SMS messages with spoofed Sender IDs that impersonate legitimate organisations.
- ⁵³ The use of a single SMS Sender ID will make it easier for the public to identify authentic government communications sent by SMSes, and safeguard themselves against government official impersonation scams.
- ⁵⁴ The Shared Responsibility Framework (SRF) sets out clear roles and accountabilities for consumers, financial institutions, and telecommunications providers in mitigating phishing scams. It clarifies the allocation of responsibility for losses arising from a defined scope of phishing scams and provides the operational process for consumers to report such scams. In doing so, it makes financial institutions and telecommunications providers more accountable for scam losses.
- ⁵⁵ The ScamShield app allows users to check whether suspicious calls, websites and messages (SMS, Telegram, and WhatsApp) are scams. Users can report suspicious potential scams, creating a valuable crowdsourced database that improves the system's ability to identify emerging threats and warn the wider community.
- ⁵⁶ The Act is expected to take effect by mid-2026.
-