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Minister Mr. Manisha
Gnanasekera
Permanent Mission of Sri
Lanka.

**13th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
On Ecuador**

Madam President,

The delegation of Sri Lanka welcomes the high-level delegation of Ecuador, and commends the comprehensive statement, and the nation-wide consultative process adopted in preparing the National Report.

Sri Lanka commends Ecuador's efforts in promoting and protecting human rights, in particular the innovative approach to protecting the environment and combating climate change. In this regard, Sri Lanka takes special note of the launching in 2007 of the Yasuni-ITT initiative. We commend the spirit of altruism and generosity of the people of Ecuador in having collectively renounced potential oil revenues from the Yasuni National Park in favour of the wellbeing of humankind.

We also acknowledge efforts by the Ecuador Government to combat violence against women, eliminate child labour and reduce poverty. We also commend the Government's investment in health and education.

We welcome Ecuador's efforts to eradicate human trafficking and the adoption of the National Plan for Human Trafficking Prevention and Sanction and the Programme aimed to assist and protect victims of such crime.

My delegation would like to offer the following recommendation to the Government of Ecuador:

- To further reinforce efforts to combat human trafficking and to protect victims of such crime, especially women and children.

In conclusion, Madam President, my delegation strongly recommends the adoption of the Report on the UPR of Ecuador.

Thank you.