



Delivered by:
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Minister

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13th Session of the UPR
Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
at the Universal Periodic Review of Morocco

Madam President,

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

Sri Lanka commends Morocco's continued efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the institutional and legislative reforms undertaken. Sri Lanka welcomes the granting of constitutional status to the National Human Rights Council, the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Unit on Human Rights, and the adoption of the National Action Plan for Democracy and Human Rights and the National Charter on the Environment and Sustainable Development.

We acknowledge efforts to protect the rights of women and children, in particular the proposed setting up of a complaint and monitoring mechanism for child rights.

We commend action taken to lower the unemployment rate from approximately 15 per cent to 8 per cent.

We also note in particular, the Ministry of Education's emergency programme, which focuses on the structural reform of higher education, and the development of pre-school, primary and secondary education.

We also acknowledge the New Strategy and Action Plan adopted by the Ministry of Health, and progress in maternal and child health.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

- Take further measures to remove disparities in access to health care, in particular with respect to vulnerable groups and regions that are poorly served.
- Continue action to increase representation of women in elected and decision-making positions.

Thank you