AMB. STEFFEN SMIOT

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 2012 – Sri Lanka Intervention by Denmark

Madame President,

Denmark welcomes the Sri Lankan Delegation and appreciates the Government's National Action Plans for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and for implementation of the LLRC-recommendations. These should be fully implemented to continue the positive achievements already made, including in the Northern Province.

Denmark is concerned over reports of impunity for perpetrators of serious HR violations and regrets that the Government is yet to implement previously accepted UPR recommendations, including on extrajudicial killings and torture. We would appreciate an update on the status of the Government's deliberations on ratifying the OPCAT since 2008.

Accountability:

• Denmark recommends that the Sri Lankan Government conducts impartial investigations and prosecutions against members of the security forces, regardless of rank, implicated in violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including sexual violence.

Torture:

• Denmark also recommends that the Government grants due process rights to all detainees held in both military and police facilities, including those held in administrative detention; discloses all unofficial detention sites; and facilitates effective and independent monitoring of detainees.

Thank you Madame President.