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Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fourteenth Session**

Review of Sri Lanka

(Geneva, November 1st, 2012)

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HEBA MOSTAFA

Madame President,

Mr. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Minister of
Plantation
Industries
of Sri Lanka

My delegation welcomes the delegation of Sri Lanka headed by H.E. *****. Egypt is aware of the difficulties Sri Lanka has gone through and the challenges related to conflict and post-conflict transition vis-à-vis promotion and protection of human rights. We emphasise the imperative of ensuring the unity and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka; meanwhile we pay particular attention to continuing national efforts in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

We note the positive developments in Sri Lanka after the end of hostilities, particularly efforts exerted in re-settling IDPS, reducing security restrictions, combating recruitment of child soldiers, and holding elections in the Eastern provinces. We welcome the decision of the Government to lift the state of emergency, and other time mapped efforts to implement the recommendations of the "Lessons Learned and Reconciliation Commission" report, in addition to policies and legislation introduced within the framework of the National Human Rights Plan.

Finally, we would like to recommend the following to the Sri Lankan Government:

- 1) To implement the announced voluntary commitments and the UPR accepted recommendations.
- 2) To take further steps to ensure more participation of Sri Lankan Muslims in the reconciliation process and national efforts of economic, social, and cultural integration.
- 3) To ratify the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities, and continue steps taken to domesticate other international instruments previously acceded to.

I Thank you.
