**Universal Periodic Review 14 – Sri Lanka**

**Intervention by the Netherlands**

**1 November 2012**

Madam President,

The Netherlands would like to thank His/Her Excellency,

for the introduction of the national report of Sri Lanka.

The situation in Sri Lanka is different from that four years ago.

We believe the Government of Sri Lanka could further normalize the situation by implementing the report of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (as mentioned in resolution HRC19/2).

We have two concrete **recommendations** for the Government of Sri Lanka:

**[Freedom of expression and media (internet)]**

1. To refrain from restricting access to and banning from websites and withdraw the Order of 5 November 2011 which requires news sites to register.

**[Human Rights Defenders]**

1. To desist from campaigns and threats against human rights defenders and to ensure the investigation by an independent police commission into missing persons from this group, in line with the LLRC report recommendations on involuntary disappearances in a wider context.

Thank you Madam President.