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STATEMENT BY DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP SESSION ON SRI LANKA ON 1 NOVEMBER 2012

(1min 12s)

Madam President,

Singapore recognises the challenges faced by Sri Lanka as a country that has emerged only recently from a protracted internal conflict of nearly 30 years. We note the Government's efforts at national reconciliation to ensure an enduring peace, and to put the country on the path towards a sustainable economic recovery. We believe that the rule of law is key to ensuring stability, social justice and equality, which in turn, are important conditions for inclusive economic growth. We therefore **recommend** that Sri Lanka continue its efforts in enhancing the rule of law to ensure long-term stability and sustainable development.

Despite the challenges, we note that Sri Lanka has made progress in several areas to improve the well-being of its people, for example in education, as reflected in the consistent improvement of its Human Development Index since 2008. We **recommend** that it continue to improve accessibility to education, especially in the post-conflict and underdeveloped areas.

In conclusion, we commend Sri Lanka for its achievements and wish it well on the path ahead.