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UPR14/Sri Lanka/Statement by Slovakia
1 November, 2012

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Mme. President,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Sri Lanka to the UPR Working Group, led by, and thank it for its presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process. Slovakia is aware of vast human rights challenges faced by Sri Lanka due to the dark heritage of the decades-long painful civil conflict. We would like to present the country the following recommendations:

- 1. to implement the recommendations of the UN Panel of Experts on accountability, bringing all those allegedly responsible for violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law to due justice in compliance with international standards,**
- 2. to safeguard the independence of its judiciary,**
- 3. to ensure that all human rights defenders operating in the country, including individuals cooperating with UN HR mechanisms, are protected effectively from unjustified criminalisation, harassment or intimidation and can perform freely their legitimate duties,**
- 4. to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including accession to its Agreement on Privileges and Immunities.**

I thank you, Mme. President.