

**Statement by Sweden in the
interactive dialogue on Sri Lanka**

*Delivered by Minister Counsellor Irina Schoulgin Nyoni
Geneva, November 1, 2012*

Madame/Mr President,

Sweden wishes to thank Minister Samarasinghe and his delegation for the presentation of your national report.

Sweden is pleased to note that the number of reported enforced disappearances has decreased since the last UPR review. Nevertheless, civil society organisations have questioned the impartiality of the parties tasked with investigating enforced disappearances.

Therefore, Sweden recommends the Government of Sri Lanka to sign the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

At the last UPR, Sri Lanka accepted the recommendation to adopt measures to investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for recruiting child soldiers during the war. However, there remains concern over the absence of criminal convictions related to the recruitment of child soldiers.

Sweden recommends the Government of Sri Lanka to make every effort to ensure that those responsible for crimes against children, particularly concerning the recruitment of child soldiers, are brought to justice as soon as possible.

Finally, Sweden would like to recommend Sri Lanka to take all necessary steps to fully commit to end impunity for international crimes by acceding to the Rome Statute of the ICC and to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute.

Thank you Madam/Mr President