



Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

15th session of the Universal Periodic review

Review of Burundi- 24 January 2013

Mr President,

The delegation of Sri Lanka welcomes the high level delegation of Burundi to the UPR Working Group.

We acknowledge the follow-up action on recommendations accepted by Burundi, during the 1st cycle of the UPR.

We welcome efforts that have been made in the area of protecting the rights of the child and of women, including measures to promote girls' education at all levels and combat causes for school dropout, as also the criminalization of trafficking in women and girls, exploitation and prostitution, as provided for in the 2009 Criminal Code.

We note that efforts are being made to improve access to health to the population.

We congratulate the Government of Burundi for the implementation of measures to restore peace throughout the country, including the reintegration of former child soldiers into society. We also welcome efforts towards civilian disarmament and to combat the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Burundi:

1. In line with the Constitution of Burundi which guarantees equality before the law to all its citizens, continue measures to combat discrimination and violence against albinos;
2. Promote awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS, especially in the rural areas and improve protective and preventive support for AIDS orphans.

Thank you.