



64

Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

16th session of the Universal Periodic Review

Review of Azerbaijan – 30 April 2013

Mr President,

My delegation welcomes the delegation of Azerbaijan to the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for the comprehensive national report and the presentation this afternoon.

We take note of the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the first cycle of the UPR, through the National Action Programme and the development of the normative legal structure. Much has also been undertaken in human rights education and training.

We take cognizance of the emphasis placed on the improvement of maternal and children's health standards through the adoption of the national strategies on reproductive health as well as other measures.

Also significant is that targeted measures and economic and social policies have resulted in reducing poverty levels and enhanced social wellbeing.

We also note that considerable resources have been spent on the upliftment of Internally Displaced Persons and that there have been significant achievements in this area.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to Azerbaijan:

1. Take measures to further develop the health care system, especially in rural areas;
2. Continue efforts to ensure gender equality and advancement of women, in line with national policies and laws.
3. Continue to address issues pertaining to IDPs, in line with the relevant state programmes.

In conclusion, we wish Azerbaijan success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.