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Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

16th session of the Universal Periodic Review

Review of Germany- 25 April 2013

Mr President,

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

Sri Lanka takes note of the various developments that have taken place since the first cycle of the UPR review, including the entry into force of new legislation and the country's accession to several international conventions, with a view to promoting and protecting human rights.

We take cognizance of the efforts being made by Germany to combat discrimination against minority communities and immigrants. We hope that these as well as further measures would help in reducing and eventually removing the obstacles faced by these groups in the enjoyment of rights such as access to education, health, employment and housing.

We also observe that the remuneration gap between men and women remains a topic of discourse and hope that Germany will be successful in remedying existing wage inequalities at the earliest.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to Germany:

1. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,
2. Strengthen measures to bridge the wage gap between women and men, including in the private sector.

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

Thank you.