

49



Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

16th session of the Universal Periodic Review

Review of the Russian Federation - 29 April 2013

Mr President,

The delegation of Sri Lanka warmly welcomes the delegation of the Russian Federation led by His Excellency Minister Konovalov, to the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for the comprehensive national report and the presentation.

My delegation takes note of the measures in place, encompassing diverse areas, to protect human rights.

We commend reinforced efforts towards the protection of children and women, such as the establishment of regional commissioners for children's rights, the national strategy for 2012-2017 to promote action in the interest of children, and the establishment of a working group to draft a federal bill on the prevention of violence in the family, on the basis of CEDAW recommendations. We are encouraged to note that these efforts are yielding positive results.

We also welcome efforts to counter terrorism and extremism, and note that measures to combat human trafficking have been intensified both at national and international levels.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to the Russian Federation:

1. Pay specific attention to staff-members' education and human rights training of personnel of law-enforcement agencies, courts and investigating authorities.
2. Actively engage with public councils under the state bodies while developing measures aimed at ensuring human rights in a more comprehensive manner.

In conclusion, we wish the Russian Federation success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.