



Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
18th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Uruguay – 29 January 2014

Mr. President,

My delegation welcomes the delegation of Uruguay to the UPR Working Group. We take note of the developments in Uruguay since its first Universal Periodic Review in 2009.

We note that Uruguay is strengthening its social policies on children and adolescents and that much attention is also being given to addressing the increased vulnerability of child workers, street children and victims of child abuse. In this respect, we welcome the National Strategy for Children and Adolescents 2010–2030 which had been drawn up based on the views of children and adolescents themselves, as well as the related Action Plan for 2010-2015.

We congratulate Uruguay for its achievement in reducing poverty rates and encourage the country to continue its efforts in this area.

Sri Lanka is encouraged by the government's efforts to guarantee the right to education, and the many plans and programmes being implemented to ensure quality and continuity in education. We also take positive note of the Ceibal Plan which seeks to offer the poorest sections of the population, the possibility of accessing new technologies.

We take note of the 44 voluntary pledges and commitments undertaken by Uruguay, encompassing diverse areas and wish the country success in their implementation.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to Uruguay:

1. Strengthen measures to respond to gender-based violence in every sphere of public and private life;
2. Strengthen institutional mechanisms to address crimes against children, such^{as} trafficking and sexual exploitation of children and adolescents;

Finally, we wish Uruguay success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you