



**Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
18th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Viet Nam -5 February 2014**

Mr. President,

My delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of Viet Nam led by to the UPR Working Group.

Sri Lanka acknowledges the progress made by the Government of Viet Nam in the fulfilment of its international human rights obligations encompassing many areas, notwithstanding the impact of the global economic and financial crisis.

For this reason, it is also laudable that Viet Nam has been successful in achieving most of the MDGs before schedule and is recognized internationally as one of the best examples in fulfilling MDGs, especially in hunger alleviation and poverty reduction.

We are encouraged by the creation of jobs and the significant decrease in unemployment in recent years, owing to the strengthening of labour laws and policies.

Sri Lanka is pleased to note that Viet Nam is considering the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Family Members (ICMW). We also note that a visit this year by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to the country is being considered. Sri Lanka welcomes Vietnam's engagement in the Colombo Process.

Finally, Sri Lanka recommends to the government of Vietnam to take further measures to ensure equitable and sustainable poverty reduction, with particular attention to vulnerable groups, especially in rural areas.

We wish Vietnam success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.