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**Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
20th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Angola - 30 October 2014**

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka welcomes the delegation of Angola to the UPR Working Group. We thank them for the presentation this afternoon, providing an overview of the efforts being undertaken in the further promotion and protection of human rights since its first UPR.

Based on its own experience as a country that has undergone nearly three decades of conflict against terrorism, Sri Lanka recognizes the challenges and the great effort made by Angola to rebuild their country and move towards achieving of sustainable socio-economic development and continued peace and stability for her people.

We commend the Government of Angola for the progressive measures undertaken, both legislative and institutional framework, with a view to effectively protecting children's rights and ensuring their wellbeing. We note that considerable efforts have been made including the enactment of law on the Protection and Full Development of Child in 2012 and initiatives under the 2011 Strategy for the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Children.

We also take note of the constructive policy measures taken to promote gender equality and to reduce disparities between men and women and safeguard their family values. It is noteworthy that in the implementation of these policies, special attention has been paid to women in rural areas, female heads of household and disabled women to enable them to have effective access to health, education, land, housing and microcredit for income-generating activities.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendation to Angola:

Intensify efforts to achieve further gains in the areas of poverty reduction, especially focusing on providing necessary resources to realize the right to adequate housing and improving the living conditions of the people in rural areas.

Finally, we wish Angola success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.