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**Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
20th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Kyrgyzstan – 19 January 2014**

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka extends a warm welcome to the High Level delegation from Kyrgyzstan and congratulates Kyrgyzstan for the achievements and the progress made in the follow up to its first UPR.

At the outset, Sri Lanka wishes to recognize Kyrgyzstan's significant achievements, in the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, we commend Kyrgyzstan for the establishment of a Government Coordinating Council for human rights in 2013, to improve protection of rights and freedoms of the society and also to ensure compliance with the international obligations. Sri Lanka also commends Kyrgyzstan for facilitating visits of the Special Rapporteurs on torture in 2011 and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in 2013. We note the adoption of a National Action Plan against Torture in 2011.

Sri Lanka also welcomes the introduction of the national development program of the judiciary for the period from 2014-2017, envisaging new reforms to the judiciary system in order to increase the efficiency of the courts, on par with the global standards of openness and transparency.

We note with interest the programme, 'Transition to sustainable development 2013-2017' adopted by Kyrgyzstan based on the principles of economic, social and ecological processes and also a programme for the period 2014-2017 to guarantee the rights and to improve the quality of life of disabled persons. We note the adoption of new children's code in 2012, which guarantees and outlines procedures for protection of children.

In view of the above progressive moves, Sri Lanka wishes to recommend Kyrgyzstan:

1. Continue the implementation of measures aimed to empower women and their contribution towards the economic development
2. Expedite efforts towards prohibition of all forms of child labour

Finally, we wish Kyrgyzstan success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.