



Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
32rd Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Oman- 5 October 2015

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka welcomes the delegation of Oman and expresses appreciation for the national report and update. We congratulate Oman for the progress made in the follow up to its first UPR.

Sri Lanka notes that during the period under consideration, there have been important developments with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights by introducing policies and legislation, as well as setting up relevant institutions.

Notably, the strategic measures aimed at empowering women have resulted in a 50% increase in the rate of girls' enrolment in schools and universities, 43% increase of female workers in civil service and improvement of women's participation in politics. It is also noted that Oman ranked 56th place in the Global Gender Equality Index in 2013.

The promulgation of the Child Law by virtue of Royal Decree No. 22/2014 in line with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), making education compulsory and free of charge as well as the Health Vision 2050 of Oman, including national strategies for Childhood and for the advancement of Women and the National Plan for the Elderly, are among the considered measures taken by Oman.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to Oman:

1. Continue efforts to improve the status of women in society and further promote gender equality at all levels, enhancing the contribution of women to the country's development process;
2. Strengthen measures to combat human trafficking and take measures to protect victims of trafficking.

Finally, we wish Oman success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.