



Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
24<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review  
Review of Namibia-18 January 2016

Mr. President,

My delegation, welcomes the high-level delegation of Namibia and express our appreciation for the comprehensive statement.

Sri Lanka commends the positive developments that have taken place in Namibia in the promotion and protection of human rights within the country, since the adoption of its last UPR.

In particular, we are pleased to note that Namibia has launched the National Human Rights Action Plan for the period 2015-19 (NHRAP) with the aim of improving, respecting and fulfilling human rights obligations in Namibia in line with the Vienna Declaration on National Human Rights Action Plan of 1993, we also observe that the Office of the Ombudsman has been maintaining the "A" status in terms of the Paris Principles consecutively for the last nine years.

Notwithstanding the challenges faced by Namibia, the country has improved access to education and other public services and has embarked upon an ambitious poverty reduction strategy, including establishment of a dedicated Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, with the mandate of coordinating all the programmes which aim to reduce poverty in the country, in line with the country's vision 2030.

Sri Lanka welcomes Namibia's efforts to improve its institutional and policy framework aimed at promoting gender equality through the adoption of the National Gender Policy (2010-2020) and strengthening the mechanisms of protection of children against sexual violence through the adoption of the Child Care and protection Act in 2015.

We recommend that Namibia:

1. Continues to undertake measures to eliminate poverty and combat unemployment;
2. Continues efforts to achieve universal primary education in line with the vision of the National Plan of "Education for All."

In conclusion, we wish Namibia success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.