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Statement by Sri Lanka
25th Session of the Universal Periodic Review
Review of Sudan - 4 May 2016

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka welcomes the delegation of Sudan to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation this morning, providing an overview of the efforts being undertaken in the promotion and protection of human rights since its first UPR.

Sri Lanka recognizes the efforts made by Sudan to address challenges in achieving sustainable socio-economic development including pursuing its strategic development plan (2007-2031), providing poor persons with livelihood and integrating them into a health insurance system and also enhancing access to basic education for all.

We note the considerable efforts made at both institutional and legislative levels to ensure protection of human rights including the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission, the enactment of the Health Insurance Act in 2016, The Transparency, Integrity and Anti-Corruption Act in 2016, Freedom of Information Act in 2015 and the Anti-Human Trafficking Act in 2014. We highlight the importance of full implementation of the National Action Plan for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (2013-2023), which aims to provide a firm foundation to apply the principles of equality and non-discrimination in the enjoyment of human rights, and harmonize national legislation with Sudan's regional and international obligations. In this regard we encourage constructive engagement between the civil society in Sudan and the Government.

We also encourage the Sudanese Government to continue joint efforts with the African Union to honour the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. In this context, we highlight the importance of the support of the international community in consolidating peace and development in Sudan.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to Sudan:

1. Intensify efforts to achieve further gains in the areas of poverty reduction and improving the living conditions of the people in rural areas, particularly in providing necessary resources to realize the right to adequate housing and health;
2. Continue efforts aimed at ensuring access to basic education for all and measures to strengthen the performance of the education system.

We wish Sudan success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.