



**Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review  
Review of Thailand – 11 May 2016**

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Thailand to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for their comprehensive national report and the presentation this morning.

We take note of the drafting of the new Constitution of Thailand. While it is important to include all sections of society in the consultations, we hope that the constitution will include provisions that will promote and protect human rights and strengthen democracy, and the rule of law as well as civil institutions.

We are pleased to note that Thailand has reached the status of an upper-middle income economy since 2011, and we note the sustained progress made by Thailand in reducing poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality, reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS, ensuring sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, improving the lives of slum dwellers, and building a global partnership for development.

We note the steps taken by Thailand to combat the issue of human trafficking which includes the Amendment to the 2008 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act in 2015 and ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in October 2013, the Palermo protocol. The measures taken by the Thai Government towards the realization of the rights of the migrant workers and their socio - economic wellbeing, including the ongoing collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on the improvement of healthcare for migrant workers, are noteworthy.

Sri Lanka wishes to make the following recommendations to Thailand:

1. Further strengthen measures to ensure equal access to health services for all, while giving special attention to the needs of children, women and the elderly;
2. Continue the progressive measures taken to promote the rights of migrant workers and their health.

We wish Thailand success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.