**28th Session of the Working Group on the UPR**

Statement of Bahrain

**UPR of Sri Lanka**

**Wednesday 15 Sri Lanka 2017**

**Thank you Mr President,**

Bahrain warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Sri Lanka to the 28th session of the UPR working group and commends the presentation of the report. Bahrain values the efforts made by Sri Lanka since the government transition in 2015 to prioritize the widening of democratic space, truth and reconciliation and to place firm commitments to deliver accountability for alleged crimes under international law.

Bahrain also appreciates the efforts taken by Sri Lanka to protect and safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities, namely by ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016.

Noting the positive efforts Sri Lanka has made in the field of human rights, we have two recommendations:

- Enhance participation by women in political and public life and further increase assistance to women heads of households in gaining access to employment and services to improve their socioeconomic conditions

- Adopt special measures to ensure that persons in particularly vulnerable situations such a children have meaningful access to the justice system and other complaint procedures

We wish Sri Lanka all success for its review.

**I thank you.**