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**Statement by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

**28th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of the Republic of Korea - 09 November 2017**

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka extends a warm welcome to the High Level delegation from the Republic of Korea and extends appreciation for the informative presentation.

Sri Lanka wishes to recognize Republic of Korea’s achievements in promotion and protection of human rights, in particular, the efforts made by the Government to incorporate the UPR recommendations into specific policy tasks, and reflecting the result in the National Action Plan for Human Rights (NAP).

We also note with interest the announcement by the new Administration on one hundred (100) specific policy tasks identified to pave the way to reinforce freedom of expression and the independence of the press to uphold democratic principles; strengthening independence and competence of the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK); prohibiting discrimination across all sectors of the society; galvanizing labour rights including access to social security, education and health. We also recognize the proactive role played by the Republic of Korea in promoting democratic values and human rights protection globally, as an active member of the Human Rights Council.

Sri Lanka recommends the Government to continue implementation of its Comprehensive Plan to Prevent Domestic Violence, including through awareness raising.

While commending the RoK’s efforts to support mine victims by medical subsidies and compensation by the enactment of the Special Act on the Support for Mine Victims in 2014, we recommend RoK to share its best practices and challenges in reaching out to the most vulnerable victims.

In conclusion, Sri Lanka wishes the Republic of Korea success in its UPR engagement.

Thank you.