**Remarks by PRUN/Geneva**

**At the Adoption of the Working Group Report - 4th Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of Sri Lanka**

**Geneva, 3 February 2023**

Mr. President,

Members of the Troika

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

I am honoured to be here today, for the adoption of the final report of Sri Lanka’s review under the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review that took place on 1st February 2023.

Sri Lanka has listened carefully to the 106 countries who took the floor and would like to thank them for their substantive suggestions and recommendations. I also thank those countries who submitted advance questions.

The 4th Cycle of the UPR of Sri Lanka gave us a unique opportunity to demonstrate the Government’s commitment to the Sri Lankan people in the field of human rights, in a constructive and cooperative manner.

We are encouraged by the interventions by most of the delegations recognizing the positive steps taken by Sri Lanka and the progress made in fulfilling human rights obligations, and we have also noted the concerns expressed by our friends in the international community.

While reiterating our strong support and commitment to the UPR process, I can assure you that Sri Lanka will work hard to ensure that the remaining challenges pertaining to human rights are addressed.

In that spirit, Sri Lanka appreciates the understanding demonstrated by delegations to the challenges faced by Sri Lanka particularly in the current context.

As my Foreign Minister stated in his opening remarks on Wednesday, following the conclusion of this Review we are keen on communicating the outcome of the process to all relevant domestic stakeholders with a view to consider appropriate modalities for the implementation of accepted recommendations in the next few years.

The Government of Sri Lanka will carefully examine the 294 recommendations received in consultation with relevant stakeholders and respond to the Secretariat within the set timelines.

In conclusion let me thank you Mr. President for your cooperation and support throughout this process.

I also wish to thank the members of the Troika for Sri Lanka’s Review, Algeria, Qatar and the United Kingdom for their assistance and contribution towards the adoption of the recommendations and their constructive engagement during this process.

Finally, my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Secretariat for their technical support throughout Sri Lanka s Review.

Thank you.