**42nd Session of the UPR Working Group - Review of Sri Lanka**

**1 February 2023**

**Statement by the Delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan**

Bhutan welcomes the distinguished delegation of Sri Lanka to the session and commends Sri Lanka for its concerted efforts and progress in implementing its human rights obligations, despite the enormous socio-economic challenges.

We welcome the reconstitution of the Human Rights Commission and adoption of national policies such as the gender equality policy, the national action plan on women, peace and security and the national human rights action plan.

We note the measures taken related to social protection, poverty alleviation and the allocation of additional budget to the Social Safety-Net Programme.

In the spirit of friendship, Bhutan recommends the following:

1. Continue its efforts in promoting and protecting the rights to health, education, food and an adequate standard of living.
2. Continue efforts in addressing the impacts of climate change and ensure effective implementation of the National Environmental Action Plan 2022-2030.

We wish Sri Lanka a successful review.

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