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**Human Rights Council**

**Fifty-third session**

19 June–14 July 2023

Agenda item 6

**Universal periodic review**

**Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

**Sri Lanka**

**Addendum**

**Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review**

1. Sri Lanka has continued to engage constructively with the UN for decades. Sri Lanka has participated actively in the extensive array of helpful working methods of the UN Human Rights Council including the UPR and special procedures mandate holders and Treaty Bodies in the promotion and protection of human rights.

2. The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) extends its appreciation to all delegations that participated at the Review of Sri Lanka’s national report to the 4th cycle of the UPR and provided 294 recommendations for the next cycle of Sri Lanka’s UPR. The number and scope of recommendations as well as the constructive comments received by Sri Lanka indicate the genuine interest of the participating Member States towards the commitment of and continuous efforts by Sri Lanka in protecting, promoting and upholding human rights. We are encouraged by the constructive interventions that acknowledged the positive steps taken by the GoSL and the progress we have achieved since the last Review in 2017.

3. The GoSL consulted 24 local authorities seeking their views on all recommendations. During this exercise, as the lead Government Agency responsible for coordinating UPR related matters, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a series of consultations with the relevant line Ministries/Agencies. Thereafter, approval of the Cabinet of Ministers was obtained for the GoSL positions on the UPR recommendations.

4. Various factors were taken into consideration in deciding the position that Sri Lanka ought to take on the said recommendations, namely: the legal and constitutional framework, whether those were within the scope of State policy priorities and plans, whether those were in line and consistent with Sri Lanka’s international obligations/commitments and positions voluntarily undertaken, including those stated at the 4th Cycle Review as well as the previous UPR cycles, bearing in mind, the current domestic conditions, inter alia, socio-economic and political priorities.

5. Based on the said internal consultations and considering the aforesaid factors, the GoSL decided to support 173 recommendations and take note of 115 recommendations. The GoSL rejects 06 recommendations.

6. Voluntary Pledges of Sri Lanka for the next Cycle of the UPR will be announced at the adoption of Sri Lanka’s recommendations under the 4th cycle of the UPR, scheduled to be held during the 53rd Session of the HRC.

7. Sri Lanka acknowledges the UPR as a helpful voluntary peer-review process that fosters the sharing of good practices by UN Member States in the implementation of human rights commitments and obligations and also facilitates a cooperative approach for countries to domestically fulfill human rights obligations that have been voluntarily undertaken.

Recommendations supported

8. 65.1, 65.2, 65.6, 65.19, 65.20, 65.21, 65.23, 65.25, 65.26, 65.29, 65.30, 65.31, 65.32, 65.33, 65.34, 65.36, 65.37, 65.39, 65.41, 65.43, 65.47, 65.48, 65.65, 65.66, 65.71, 65.72, 65, 73, 65.74, 65.75, 65.76, 65.77, 65.78, 65.79, 65.80, 65.81, 65.82, 65.83, 65.84, 65.87, 65.98, 65.99, 65.102, 65.103, 65.104, 65.106, 65.107, 65.108, 65.111, 65.113, 65.114, 65.115, 65.116, 65.117, 65.118, 65.119, 65.121, 65.122, 65.123, 65.124, 65.131, 65.132, 65.133, 65.135, 65.136, 65.138, 65. 139, 65.141, 65.142, 65.143, 65.144, 65.145, 65.146, 65.148, 65.149, 65.151, 65.152, 65.154, 65.155, 65.156, 65.157, 65.158, 65.159, 65.160, 65.161, 65.162, 65.163, 65.164, 65.165, 65.166, 65.167, 65.168, 65.169, 65.170, 65.171, 65.172, 65.173, 65.174, 65.175, 65.176, 65.177, 65.179, 65.180, 65.181, 65.182, 65.183, 65.184, 65.185, 65.186, 65.187, 65.188, 65.189, 65.190, 65.191, 65.192, 65.193, 65.194, 65.195, 65.196, 65.198, 65.200, 65.201, 65.202, 65.203, 65.204, 65.205, 65.206, 65.207, 65.208, 65.209, 65.210, 65.211, 65.212, 65.213, 65.214, 65.215, 65.216, 65.217, 65.218, 65.219, 65.221, 65.222, 65.223, 65.224, 65.225, 65.226, 65.227, 65.229, 65.230, 65.232, 65.233, 65.234, 65.235, 65.236, 65.237, 65.238, 65.242, 65.250, 65.252, 65.253, 65.254, 65.255, 65.257, 65.259, 65.260, 65.261, 65.263, 65.264, 65.265, 65.266, 65.267, 65.268, 65.269, 65.270.

Recommendations noted

9. 65.3, 65.4, 65.5, 65.7, 65.8, 65.9, 65.10, 65.11, 65.12, 65.13, 65.14, 65.15, 65.16, 65.17, 65.18, 65.22, 65. 24, 65.27, 65.28, 65.35, 65.38, 65.40, 65.42, 65.44, 65.45, 65.46, 65.49, 65.50, 65.51, 65.52, 65.53, 65.54, 65.55, 65.56, 65.57, 65.58, 65.59, 65.60, 65.61, 65.62, 65.63, 65.64, 65.67, 65.68, 65.69, 65.70, 65.85, 65.86, 65.88, 65.89, 65.90, 65.91, 65.92, 65.93, 65.94, 65.95, 65.96, 65. 97, 65.100, 65.101, 65.105, 65.110, 65.127, 65.128, 65.129, 65.130, 65.137, 65.140, 65.147. 65.150, 65.153, 65.178, 65.197, 65.199, 65.220, 65.228, 65.231, 65.239, 65.240, 65.241, 65.243, 65.244, 65.245, 65.246, 65.247, 65.248, 65.249, 65.251, 65.256, 65.258, 65.262, 65.271, 65.272, 65.273, 65.274, 65.275, 65.276, 65.277, 65.278, 65.279, 65.280, 65.281, 65.282, 65.283, 65.284, 65.285, 65.286, 65.287, 65.288, 65.289, 65.290, 65.291, 65.292, 65.293, 65.294.

Recommendations partially supported

10. 65.42 (Noted): On technical assistance, the GoSL will seek support from the UN as appropriate based on requirements.

11. 65.140 (Noted): Reference to ensuring fundamental freedoms and human rights of all citizens is supported. It may be highlighted that the rights of all citizens are protected without discrimination.

12. 65.178 (Noted): the GoSL has introduced social safety measures to protect all segments of the country.

13. 65.228 (Noted): There is no quota restriction in public and private sectors.

Recommendations rejected

65.109, 65.112, 65.120, 65.125, 65.126, 65.134

14. GoSL position on the HRC Resolution 51/1 and 46/1 is reiterated.

15. 65.120: Reference to the work of Office on Missing Persons and Office for Reparations is supported.

1. \* The present document is being issued without formal editing. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)