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Human Rights Council, 30th Session

Item 2

Discussion following the presentation of the OHCHR Report on Sri Lanka

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the European Union statement.

We thank the High Commissioner for the report on the findings of a comprehensive international investigation into alleged violations and abuses of human rights in Sri Lanka. We welcome the promising signals sent by the newly elected President and Government. We are pleased to note that the recent parliamentary elections were genuine, well-administered and peaceful. The Government's commitments to human rights, the rule of law, accountability and national reconciliation should be commended. We hope that these commitments will continue to be translated into action in the framework of Sri Lanka's cooperation with the OHCHR, with this Council and its mechanisms.

Mr. President,

The findings of the OHCHR investigation note violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. Sri Lanka's progress towards society based on respect for human rights, peaceful coexistence of ethnic and religious groups and the rule of law depends on the effective delivery of accountability and reconciliation. We believe that the international community has an important role to play in this regard and support the proposal to complement national efforts with an international component. We welcome Sri Lanka's decision to co-sponsor the respective resolution.

Finally, the Czech Republic calls on the Government of Sri Lanka to invite the OHCHR to establish a full-fledged ~~country~~ presence in the country and issue a standing invitation to all Special Procedures.

I thank you.