



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

30th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

Geneva, 30 July 2015

Item 2

HC report on Sri Lanka followed by discussion

German Statement

JARASCH

Mr President,

Germany aligns itself with the statement made by the EU.

The developments in Sri Lanka – especially the presidential elections in the beginning of the year, followed by a peaceful transfer of power – are an inspiring example and encouraging sign for the future of the country and its citizens.

However, the High Commissioner's report on Sri Lanka reminds us of the serious and widespread human rights violations committed until recently, during the civil war. We are grateful for the excellent report of the OHCHR, which is a great contribution to shedding light on the human rights situation.

After decades of war, the society needs a broad and comprehensive process of reconciliation, making sure that victims and their families are heard. It is vital that all communities are involved in this process, regardless of their ethnic and religious background. Bringing those responsible for atrocities to justice will be an important step to help the healing process in the Srilankan society.

We highly appreciate the commitment of the Government of Sri Lanka, crucial for the success of the process. We are confident that the fair and balanced wording of this resolution tabled by the core group and Sri Lanka is a great step towards truth and justice. We wish to thank all those involved in the drawing of this excellent resolution, which

includes both: as much local ownership as possible, with as much international involvement as necessary, guaranteeing a sustainable and trustworthy mechanism.

With our own experience of dealing with a difficult past, we are happy to offer our support to Sri Lanka.

Thank you.

