

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

Check against delivery

30th Session of the UN HRC

Statement

of

**Mr. Dusko Uzunovski
Minister Counselor
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.**

Item 2: ID with the HCHR on the situation in Sri Lanka

Geneva, September 30, 2015

Mr. President,

(aligning clause)

The Republic of Macedonia thanks the HCHR and the OISL for the report presented today.

We welcome the reform processes taking place in Sri Lanka and the decisions taken by the new government of national unity to move towards substantive reconciliation and accountability process.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the government of Sri Lanka to continue with its efforts towards meaningful reform in the areas of justice and reconciliation and encourage the continuation of the constructive approach taken, especially in relation to the engagement with the international community with a view of taking further steps to accelerate the reform, accountability and reconciliation processes.

Mr. President,

While taking note of the reforms taking place in Sri Lanka since January this year, we must remain aware of the alleged systematic violations of human rights in the course of the conflict which had been perpetrated with impunity, and which the current political structures have inherited as challenges on the road to reconciliation and accountability.

We also regret to note the assessment in the report of the lack of independence in the domestic investigations, but we remain encouraged by the approach of the current government towards ensuring an impartial administration of justice in the accountability process.

Amongst the other things, the improvement and implementation of the witness protection act at the national level will be of utmost importance in the administration of justice. We hope that the Government of Sri Lanka will be fully considering international experts involvement in this process.

Finally, Mr. President, we would like to note with appreciation the collaborative approach of the new government of Sri Lanka and we hope that through constructive process between the government and domestic and international factors the desired goals can be reached on the ground.

I thank you.