Proposed Voluntary Pledges – 4th Cycle of the UPR, Sri Lanka

Legal/Constitutional Reforms

1. Take necessary measures to amend the legislation on divorce to include domestic violence and divorce by mutual consent as grounds for divorce.
2. Repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA).

Reconciliation

3. Take steps to ensure women's participation in all measures and mechanisms connected with national reconciliation.
4. Continue to support the Office on Missing Persons (OMP) and the Office for Reparations (OR) including through adequate funding, resources and capacity building.

Equality and Non-Discrimination

5. Take steps to ensure non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, sex characteristics and preferences.
6. Adopt a National Policy on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Women and Gender

7. Establish an independent "National Women's Commission" with a mandate to provide leadership on legal and policy reforms, monitor the implementation of laws, women's rights and gender equality and to make recommendations to Parliament for interventions on issues of gender equity and equality.
8. Establish an independent Ombudswoman on gender issues under the Office of the Ombudperson to investigate and provide redress for injustices against individual women in the public sector.

Children

9. Continue to take steps to safeguard and advance the rights of children through national mechanisms such as the National Child Protection Authority and the Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment.
10. Increase efforts to strengthen the protection of children from child labor, domestic violence and sexual exploitation by strengthening all relevant legislation.

Access to Health

11. Continue and strengthen health education including education on appropriate sexual and reproductive health for every age.
12. Continue to take measures to ensure access to mental health services and undertake mental health awareness campaigns to educate all communities.