

## **Sri Lanka Statement to Session 2 at HLPF (11<sup>th</sup> July 2016)**

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Madam Chair,

1. Sri Lanka last year established a cabinet ministry for Sustainable Development towards facilitating the national commitments to the 2030 agenda.
2. The draft of the National Sustainable Development Policy will be tabled in Parliament within the next few weeks.
3. This is the only such ministry for SD in the Asia Pacific region, and we hold the chairmanship of the Asia Pacific Forum on SD.
4. In planning our national process, we have identified that fragmentation is a one of the main obstacles towards implementing the SDGs.
5. Secondly, we realise that planning is an exclusive process and tend to exclude.
6. Therefore, we have initiated a process themed “Planning for an Inclusive Transformation” in Sri Lanka.
7. This will be the foundation for evolving the “National Sustainable Development Roadmap” which is already in progress.
8. Last month we launched the “National Sustainable Development Engagement Platform” which brought together representation from political, administrative, civil society, academia, business and development agencies operating in the country”.
9. We also launched last month the “Provincial SD Engagement Platform” to effectively engage local governments and their stakeholders and communities.
10. The “Regional Sustainability Plans” that we are initiating will provide key input to the “National sustainable Development Roadmap”.
11. During this HLPF session we wish engage towards learning from other such initiatives and also sharing our experience.
12. We are not in the honeymoon period, and have already entered the business end of the National SDGs process.

Thank you!