



**62nd Session of the Human Rights Council:
Interactive Dialogue on the Annual Report of the UN High Commissioner
for Human Rights**

16 June 2026

Mr. President,

At the outset, I wish to thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this important and timely discussion.

This Council is increasingly called upon to address human rights issues related to conflicts, economic hardship, food insecurity, climate-related disasters and widening inequalities affecting millions across the world. Dialogue, cooperation and fairness stands at the forefront and guiding the work of the UNHRC in addressing these multiple challenges. The ongoing liquidity crisis facing the United Nations also requires us to rationalize overlapping and resource-intensive mandates, and to focus on how effectively utilise the limited resources on areas where genuine cooperation can deliver practical and tangible results. We emphasise that all human rights situations must be assessed with impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity.

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka remains committed to advancing the rights and well-being of all its people through nationally owned, democratic and constitutionally grounded processes. Having endured severe economic pressures and climate-induced hardships, we are working and steadily progressing in to consolidating stability, protect vulnerable communities and ensure that recovery benefits to be reached fairly to all sections of our society.

The Sri Lankan Government continues to prioritize national unity, reconciliation and economic recovery. Measures to strengthen institutions, enhance transparency and advance anti-corruption frameworks are being pursued to fulfil democratic aspirations of the Sri Lankan people, in terms of the mandate received by the Government.

We are also pursuing reforms to strengthen the rule of law and build public trust in the justice system. Domestic institutions dealing with missing persons, reparations, national unity and reconciliation continue their work with enhanced facilities and resources.

Sri Lanka constructively engaged with the High Commissioner and his Office, including through the High Commissioner's visit to Sri Lanka in June 2025. At the same time, we firmly reject any notion that progress can be achieved by bypassing national institutions or imposing external processes that risk deepening divisions amongst our communities.

Sri Lanka will continue engage with the United Nations and all partners in a constructive spirit. We invite the Council to support nationally owned efforts through cooperation, genuine dialogue and understanding.

Finally, Sri Lanka reiterates its support for the One China Policy and reaffirms that this Council should not be used as a platform to interfere in internal affairs of sovereign states.

I thank you.