

Right of Reply by delegation of Sri Lanka under Item 2

Hon. Mohan Pieris, Attorney-General

Mr. President

May I briefly respond to Canada's concerns regarding issues of governance and human rights in Sri Lanka in a spirit of true friendship and request that Canada desists from making politically popular statements that do not reflect contemporary developments in Sri Lanka.

To continue with this style of rhetoric would be counterproductive to the reconciliation process which has now been set in high gear and which has received an overwhelming mandate of the people of Sri Lanka.

May we take this opportunity to request Canada to take every measure in persuading the diaspora to participate in the development process of Sri Lanka which participation would be welcome by the Government and those resettled in the North and the East.