



63rd Session of the Human Rights Council
Agenda Item 2 - General Debate

Statement by Sri Lanka – 8th September 2026

Madam Vice President,

High Commissioner,

The Human Rights Council has a wide and demanding global mandate. At a time when the international community faces grave and urgent human rights situations, including armed conflicts, humanitarian crises, displacement and global challenges, the Council should ensure that its work and resources are channelled towards pressing situations.

The UN80 reform process allows reflection on efficiency, prioritization and the effective use of resources across the United Nations system.

In this context, no Council mandate should be regarded as indefinite. All mandates, particularly country-specific mandates, should be subject to periodic review against defined objectives and measurable outcomes. Where mandates overlap, the Council should actively pursue their consolidation or rationalization.

Sunset clauses and phase-out provisions should be incorporated into country-specific resolutions where appropriate.

High Commissioner,

Where a country demonstrates progress through national processes, dialogue, cooperation and technical assistance, there should be a credible pathway to concluding the mandate.

The continuation of mandates should be justified by demonstrable need and results, not institutional perpetuation.

Sri Lanka therefore encourages a focused, objective and mandate-based approach to country-specific reporting.

Thank you