

Draft national comments by Pakistan on the Country Report of the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, summary and Arbitrary Executions, Geneva, 19 September 2006.

Mr. President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur on Extra-judicial, summary and arbitrary executions for presenting his reports to this session of the Council. *The Ambassador of Nicaragua has given a ~~strong~~ response - to Special Rapporteur. This intervention is great for Lanka.*

The people and Government of Sri Lanka have faced most daunting challenges in recent past. On the one hand they were hit by the tsunami. They ~~got~~ ^{got} back ~~on their feet~~ to grapple with the formidable tasks of recovery and reconstruction. *Those tasks are still unfulfilled.*

The fury of civil unrest and violence has not spared them. It is under these circumstances that the Sri Lankan government has extended invitation to four special rapporteurs and cooperated with them, a fact acknowledged by the Special Rapporteur himself.

Under the most *difficult conditions,* trying circumstances, Sri Lanka has kept the torch of democracy burning. In this hour of trial, the people and government of Sri Lanka need the support of the international community.

The pressure on the Sri Lankan government must not legitimise impunity for terrorism. Recently, our High Commissioner to Colombo escaped an assassination attempt.

We commend President Mahinda Rajapaksa's decision to appoint an international body to deal with recent allegations of human rights violations. He met the ~~President of the~~ ^{President of the} Amnesty International in early September in London. These ~~factors~~ ^{factors} and the Sri Lankan government's unflinching desire to promote and protect human rights must be taken into consideration while formulating any follow-up action on Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka needs our full support and understanding.

I thank you Mr. President