Highlights from the Speech of Hon. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Education, Sri Lanka

- The government of Sri Lanka has always recognized the importance of developing human resources and throughout the history, policies & plans were formulated to build up a society that could contribute to the overall development of the country. Its my prime duty to remember the pioneer in this exercise late Dr.C.W.W. Kannangara who was the Minister of Education then.

- The introduction of free education in mid 1930s did contribute very much to access of Education and thereby the country did progress well in the field of Education.

- The achievements of the country in the field of education right throughout had been very impressive.

- The present government is fully committed to the total development of all youth.

- The Ministry of Education / government appreciates the work done by United Nations and other Global agencies towards the development of Education.

- Special word of appreciation is due for the contribution made in this direction by UNESCO team. I also assure as the Minister of Education, the continuity of our partnership in this worthwhile effort.

- I take pleasure in acknowledging the hard work my officers, the Maldivian group lead by their Minister and all other participants in making this workshop a success. I thank them on behalf of the Sri Lanka government for their commitment and hard work.

- I wish to assure the determination of the government to be fully committed to the EFA Programme through the already established ESDFP sector development framework and programme to achieve the set goals by 2015.

- I wish every one of you all success in working together as a team committed to this global task wherever we are.

Thank you very much.