



**THE EMBASSY OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
TO BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG AND THE EUROPEAN UNION**

27, RUE JULES LEJEUNE, 1050 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

TEL: (00322)3445394. (00322)3445585 FAX: (00322)3446737 E-MAIL: secretariat@sriankaembassy.be

Embassy of Sri Lanka in Brussels celebrates Christmas

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Brussels celebrated Christmas with the participation of the Sri Lankan community in Belgium and other Belgian well wishers at the Sri Lanka Residence on 16 December 2011. Rev. Sister Ayesha Fernando led the prayers, which were conducted in Sinhala, Tamil, English, French and Flemish.

Addressing the gathering Ambassador Ravintha Aryasinha said Christmas was associated with peace and prayer. Noting that earlier that day the report of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) had been tabled in the Sri Lanka Parliament, the Ambassador said it provided a wealth of ideas aimed at ensuring a lasting peace and reconciliation among all sections of Sri Lankans living both within and outside the country. He urged Sri Lankans living in Belgium to support the development trajectory of the country. The Ambassador also appreciated the regular coming together of the Sri Lankan community in Belgium to celebrate each other's religious celebrations.

Christmas carols were sung by members of the community in Sinhala, Tamil and English, while violin and organ recitals were performed by several young Sri Lankans.

This was followed by a reception with traditional Sri Lankan food.

Embassy of Sri Lanka
Brussels

16 December 2011