







permanent political resolution to the Tamil National Question that has plagued Sri Lanka since independence, manifest in lethal racial pogroms against Tamils in 1958, 1977 and 1983 and war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide against Tamils during the 1983-2009 war and its aftermath. Specifically, victims should be empowered to participate in finding the political resolution via a referendum conducted under international auspice to determine the political future of the Tamils. A referendum is the appropriate mechanism not only because a lasting solution requires Tamil buy-in, but also because a referendum provides an important measure of remedial justice.

3) For the UNHRC to continue to receive and review an update from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights every six months about the plight of 90,000 Tamil war widows, any progress in finding the whereabouts of the thousands of disappeared Tamils, the situation of unlawfully imprisoned Tamil Prisoners of War (POWs), land grabs under different pretexts and the level of military presence.

TGTE also urged all the states to:

1) Individually or collectively bring an accountability process (legal proceedings) before the International Court of Justice under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide against the state of Sri Lanka.

2) Bring amendments in their Immunity Acts/Foreign Sovereign Immunity Acts to include that foreign States are not immune from the jurisdiction of a Court in any civil proceedings that relate to international crimes namely genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

3) Bring legal proceedings under universal jurisdiction against political and/or military leaders accused of international crimes.

TGTE noted the unified position of the Tamil domestic political leadership, religious organizations, civil society, notably the Association for Relatives of the Enforced Disappearances and the sizable Tamil diaspora with respect to the referral of Sri Lanka to the ICC. It was highlighted that Michelle Bachelet, the United Nation's High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in her Report dated 12th January 2021 urged member states to take steps toward the referral of the situation in Sri Lanka to the ICC.

Noting in the letter Sri Lanka's longstanding history of impunity which is a threat to peace in the region as manifested in the ongoing Sri Lanka's calculated actions to destroy the distinct characteristics of the Tamil nation and the colonization of Tamil areas of historical habitation recognized in the Indo Sri Lankan Accord, in order to reduce the Tamil nation to a minority group; persecution of Muslims and Tamils, most recently displayed to the world by denying Muslims their burial rights—a violation of the right to religious freedom; along with the destruction of a Hindu Temple and the installment of a Buddhist statue in its place and demolishing the Mullivaikal memorial at Jaffna University dedication to war victims, falls within

the purview of Chapter 7 of the UN Charter.

“The combination of international inaction and limited forums to seek accountability has dealt lethal blows to achieving justice for Sri Lankan state crimes,” TGTE Prime Minister Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran called on the states “To bring amendments to their domestic laws removing state sovereign immunity as a defense for civil liability for international crimes in their domestic judicial forums”. He further said that “this would allow the victims themselves to pursue accountability in the domestic judicial forums in many countries where their presently live.

“TGTE has repeatedly called on the UN to acknowledge that Sri Lanka is an ethnocratic state that will never provide rights or justice for Tamils. The state’s refusal to implement the 13th Amendment enacted pursuant to the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord in 1987 and which was urged by the Human Rights Council itself to implement in 2015 is a classic example. Both the institutions and the polity of Sri Lanka are permeated with entrenched pervasive racism. This is not opinion; it is fact. Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein stated in his 2015 report on Sri Lanka that the crimes committed were ‘systemic.’ We call on the Core Group to look at history and listen to victims: There is no space for transitional justice in Sri Lanka. The call of the hour is remedial justice,” Rudrakumaran said.

“Accountability is not only the end itself but also an important process. Putting President Gotabaya, former Army Commander Sarath Fonseka, or former President Chandrika in prison will not itself ensure nonrecurrence of mass atrocities in the island of Sri Lanka or resolve the Tamil National Question. Holding individuals responsible for their crimes is an important first step. Progress on justice and accountability will also contribute to achieving a permanent solution to the Tamil National Question,” Rudrakumaran added.

“When more than 1.5 million people around the world (70,000 in Sri Lanka) signed on to TGTE’s ‘Refer Sri Lanka to the ICC’ petition in 2015, it was a significant step toward justice. When the International Commission of Jurists said in 2019 that referral of Sri Lanka to the ICC was “fully warranted,” that was another significant step. When Human Rights Commissioner Bachelet noted in her 2019 report that “Some segments of civil society have continued to call for international investigations and for the Security Council to refer the situation in Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court for international prosecutions and adjudication of those most responsible for these crimes,” that was yet another notable step,” Rudrakumaran said. “And when the domestic Tamil leadership and civil society in Sri Lanka called for referral of Sri Lanka to ICC last week, creating a unified voice among Tamils worldwide in seeking ICC referral, that was the Core Group’s call to action.”

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam

TGTE

+33 755168341

sutharsansivagurunathan@gmail.com

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

---

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/535092067>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2021 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.