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PRESS RELEASE:

FIRST CTF SECTORAL CONSULTATION HELD WITH LAY RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS

June 14th, 2016, Colombo, Sri Lanka: The Consultation Task Force on Reconciliation Mechanisms (CTF) held its first sectoral consultation with lay religious organisations on June 9th, 2016 at the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian and Research Institute.

Jama'ath-E-Islami, National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka, National Shooru Council, Ramakrishna Mission, All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association, All-Ceylon Hindu Congress, Young Men's Buddhist Association, National Christian Council, Ecumenical Institute and Jama' athus Salamah participated in the consultation and made submissions to the CTF. These organisations raised a number of issues, including resettlement, disappearances, inter-religious violence and co-existence. They also made specific suggestions on the four mechanisms proposed by the Government of Sri Lanka, additional mechanisms, including an Inter-Religious Council/Committee, and constitutional reform.

Sectoral consultations will also be held with professional organisations, political parties, the security forces and police, youth organisations and the media. The purpose of these consultations is to ensure that all major national-level actors participate in the consultation process and submit their views and opinions on the proposed reconciliation mechanisms as well as any alternative mechanisms or additional processes that may be necessary for advancing reconciliation in Sri Lanka.

As noted in previous announcements about sectoral consultations, the CTF would like to strongly encourage all organisations in the sectors mentioned above to participate at the respective consultations and send in submissions to the address below:

Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu

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