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நல்லினக்க பொறிமுறைகளை ஒருங்கிணைப்பதற்கான ஆலோசனை செயலணி

நல்லினைக்க பொறிமுறைகளை ஒருங்கிணைப்பதற்கான செயல்கள், குழியரசுக் கட்டிடம், சேர்.பாரோன் ஜயத்திலக வீதி, கொழும்பு

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Press Statement (2016-02-16)– For Immediate Release

On the 26th of January 2016 the Prime Minister appointed Ms. Manouri Muttetuwegama AAL (Chair), Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu (Secretary), Dr. Farzana Haniffa, Prof. Sitralega Maunaguru, Mr. Mirak Raheem, Mr. Gamini Viyangoda, Ms. Shantha Abimanasingham P.C, Prof. Gameela Samarasinghe, Ms. Visaka Dharmadasa, Mr. K. W. Janaranjana AAL, and Prof. Daya Somasundaram as members of a Consultation Task Force On Reconciliation Mechanisms.

The Task Force is drawn entirely from civil society and is an independent body. It will issue regular statements on its work and produce a report at the end of the consultation process that will be made public. The government has pledged to take into consideration the findings of the consultations in the design of the transitional justice process.

As noted in the letter of appointment, the Task Force is mandated to “carry out a wide process of consultations on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka.” The process will focus on ascertaining views of the public “regarding the steps they would like government to take, including mechanisms to be established to ensure a durable peace, promote and protect human rights of all, strengthen the rule of law, administration of justice, good governance, reconciliation and non- recurrence including measures for reparations in line with the ideas for mechanisms that the government proposes to establish, which were articulated at the human rights council.”

The Task Force reiterates the importance of broad-based island-wide consultations as a critical step in the transitional justice process, to ensure public legitimacy, ownership and participation, particularly to give voice to victims from all communities. The objective of the Task Force is to ascertain the views of all stakeholders, particularly victims, on mechanisms for redress.

Island-wide consultations will be carried out at the provincial level and in the North and East at the district level by local Task Forces. The consultation will use multiple methods – a) national level meetings with sectoral groups including political parties; armed forces; professionals groups, religious leaders and the media b) local public meetings c) focus group discussions on specific themes d) individual interviews e) written submissions in either of the official languages and/or English sent in by post and through the dedicated website. The Task Force

will be assisted by an expert committee and a representative committee. The Task Force will also appoint a committee composed of victims to assist in the design and operationalization of the consultation process.

Due consideration will be taken of the safety and security of those who will be involved in the consultations, and special measures will be taken at every level for their protection.

The Task Force will be mindful of the psychosocial well-being of participants, throughout the consultation process.

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