## Petition to Urge the United Nations (UN) to recognize the Tamils' Right to Self-Determination and to conduct a Referendum to decide their political future.

- Tamils living in the North and East of Sri Lanka are a distinct ethnic group with their own language, religions, culture and history.
- Successive Sinhalese governments have unleashed campaigns against the Tamil nation, killing over 250,000 Tamils since 1952, destroying Tamil culture & property and occupying Tamils' historical lands with continued genocidal in nature.
- Over 1 million Tamil people have fled the island due to government's campaign against Tamils. Meanwhile, more than 10,000 Tamil political prisoners languishing in Sri Lankan prisons as they are detained indefinitely without a proper trial.
- Tamil areas continue to be heavily militarized, despite the end of armed conflict in 2009. The administration in Tamil provinces remains under military control, and sexual violence against women and other human rights violations continuously increasing.

## "All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development."

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Article 1, in accordance with the principles proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations.

## Noting the above facts, we call upon the United Nations:

- to establish an independent, international inquiry without delay as recommended in the 'Report of the UN Secretary General's Panel of Experts on Accountability in Sri Lanka-2011'.
- to recognize the Tamils' right to Self-Determination.
- to conduct a referendum among the Tamils originally from North and East of Sri Lanka to decide their political future.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE/EMAIL	SIGNATURE
First: Last			

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