



**FEDERATION OF MALAYSIAN SRI LANKAN ORGANISATIONS  
(FOMSO)  
PERSEKUTUAN ORGANISASI SRI LANKA DI MALAYSIA  
REGISTRATION NUMBER 0711-06 WKL**

16<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

**The Secretary General  
The United Nations  
1st Ave & E 44th St  
New York, NY 10017  
USA**

Your Excellency,

**RE: MEMORANDUM - CONCERN ABOUT THE HUMANITARIAN  
SITUATION IN SRI LANKA**

1. The Federation of Malaysian Sri Lankan Organizations (FOMSO) is a non-political umbrella body formed to unite, coordinate and strengthen the economic, cultural and social needs of the members of the various Sri Lankan Organizations in Malaysia. Currently 19 of the Malaysian Sri Lankan Organizations, including the major ones, are members of FOMSO. A Board of Management consisting of elected office bearers, with an Executive Committee, manage FOMSO. Regular meetings, dialogues and social events are held to implement various programs to benefit the member organizations and their members.

2. We refer to the war in Sri Lanka and have serious concerns about the extensive conflict that has and is perishing, injuring and displacing thousands of Sri Lankan citizens. Some are fleeing the country, many are dying, thousands are being displaced and youths are recruited and pushed into the forefront of the battleground, as evident from recent international news media, via television footages, the press, the radio and the internet. The current situation is appalling. It is alarming that such hardship and suffering is being inflicted on the innocent Sinhalese and Tamil, be they Buddhist, Hindu, Christian or Muslim. It is a humanitarian tragedy of mammoth proportion. The tragedy is magnified by the fact that it appears inexorable and relentless.

3. Something must be done to stop the suffering of the innocent. Right thinking people, including Governments must vocalize their outrage and concern. We cannot be bystanders. The pain and suffering of the innocent victims invoke a natural reaction of care and concern in the hearts of Humanity.

4. In this context we urge immediate intervention by Your Excellency to, first, bring intense international pressure on the parties to the conflict to find an urgent solution to the plight of the 200,000 or so, who are trapped in the war zone.

5. Political problems must be resolved in a dignified, fair and equitable manner such that the loyalty and dignity of all Sri Lankan peoples are preserved for the long term peace, security, development and economic progress of the country. It undoubtedly requires courage and compassionate action on the part of the Government of the day. Current events in Sri Lanka seem to pave the way for more hatred as military options seem the preferred choice for the solution of the conflict. Some of the reports are alarming to the extent of indicating activities genocidal in nature.

6. Experience and History dictate that for permanent peace and prosperity, Sri Lanka needs to find a path of an amicable political solution. In this context, therefore, we earnestly seek Your Excellency's intervention with the Sri Lankan Government to:

- xvii. declare and implement an immediate ceasefire to curtail the horrendous hardship, suffering and death of innocent Sri Lankans;
- xviii. address the root causes of the concerns and conflict that are plaguing this nation of great history and culture;
- xix. determine and implement a workable political solution for long term peace and prosperity, and
- xx. allow international aid agencies to provide food, shelter and medical aid to the innocent victims of the on-going conflict.

7. FOMSO is appealing for Your Excellency's urgent intervention to abate the needless tragic human suffering and hardship of Sri Lankans, irrespective of their ethnic background. In war nobody is the victor!

8. With peace in place, we in FOMSO, as with many other organizations and governments around the world, will be happy to join in rebuilding the nation to regain its past glory for the benefit of its entire people.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,



Datu S. Kulasegaran  
President,  
Federation of Malaysian Sri Lankan Organizations