## HIMALAYA DECLARATION

# "A Sri Lanka where every individual can live peacefully with dignity, trust, and no fear or suspicion, enjoying equal rights."

Nagarkot, Nepal - 27th April 2023

## Statement 1

Preserving and promoting the pluralistic character of the country where no community feels threatened about losing its identity and pride of place.

## Statement 2

Overcoming the economic crisis, selecting an appropriate development model which encourages local production, facilitating involvement and investment from overseas Sri Lankans and others, ensuring the country is in a growth trajectory and making Sri Lanka firmly a middle-income country.

## Statement 3

Arriving at a new constitution that guarantees individual and collective rights and promotes equality and equal citizenship among all peoples, ensures accountable institutions and guarantees adequate devolution of powers to the provinces, and until such time focus on the faithful implementation of provisions of sharing of powers in the existing constitution.

### Statement 4

Devolving power in a united and undivided country, accepting the religious, cultural, and other identities of people and respecting those identities, and working towards establishing trust between ethnic groups and religious groups.

### Statement 5

Envision a Sri Lanka that is reconciled and committed to learning from its past and creating measures including accountability to ensure that such suffering never occur again.

### Statement 6

Complying with bilateral and multilateral treaties and international obligations, taking steps to follow independent and dynamic foreign policy, and ensuring the country takes its pride of place among the democratic, peaceful, and prosperous nations of the world.

# Signed by

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Ven. Madampagama Assaji Tissa Thero, Anu Nayake of Ambagahapitiya Chapter (mm)

Ven. Siyambalagaswewa Wimalasara Thero Chief Sanganayake of Northern & Eastern Provinces 25/23

Ven. Kithalagama Hemasara Nayake Thero, General Secretary, Siri Dharmarakshitha Chapter

Ven. Prof. Pallekande Rathnasara

en. Prof. Pallekande Rathnasara Thero, Acting Mahanayake of Vajirawansa Chapter Ven. Kalupahana Piyaratana Thero of Sri Saddharmawansa Chapter, Member of SL Human Rights Council 2023 chairperson of Human Development edification center Ven. Narampanawe Dhammaloka Thero Chief Sanganayake of Central Province

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Ven. Walatara Sobitha Anunayake Thero, Sri Sadhammawansa Chapter Mr. Velupillai Kuhanendran Global Tamil Forum- United Kingdom Dr. Shanthini Jeyarajah Global Tamil Forum - United States of America

Mr. Thanabalasingam Surendiran
Global Tamil Forum - United Kingdom

Mr. Srikantha Bhavaguhan Global Tamil Forum - United Kingdom Dr. Kannappar Mukunthan Global Tamil Forum - Australia

Mr. Prakash Rajasundaram Global Tamil Forum - Australia

Mr. Raj Thavaratnasingham Global Tamil Forum - Canada

Sangha for Better Sri Lanka (SBSL) is a group of Maha Sangha who have engaged in peace and reconciliation activities for decades and dedicated for a Peaceful Prosperous Sri Lanka where all its people can live in harmony, with no fear and doubt, enjoying equal rights.

**Global Tamil Forum** (GTF) is an influential Tamil diaspora organisation - established in 2009 following the end of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka. GTF is absolutely committed to a non-violent agenda and it seeks lasting peace in Sri Lanka, based on justice, reconciliation and a negotiated political settlement