



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Plenary sitting

10.5.2011

B7-0327/2011

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 122 of the Rules of Procedure

on Sri Lanka: follow up of the UN Report

Elmar Brok, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Thomas Mann, Cristian Dan Preda, Filip Kaczmarek, Mario Mauro, Michèle Striffler, Bernd Posselt, Tunne Kelam, Eija-Riitta Korhola, Monica Luisa Macovei, Elena Băsescu, Sari Essayah, Agnès Le Brun, Dominique Baudis, Bogusław Sonik
on behalf of the PPE Group

European Parliament resolution on Sri Lanka: follow up of the UN Report

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Sri Lanka,
 - having regard to the Statement by the UN Secretary-General of 25 April 2011 on public release of Panel of Experts' report on Sri Lanka,
 - having regard to the report of the Secretary-General's Panel of Experts of 31 March 2011 on Accountability in Sri Lanka,
 - having regard to the Declaration by the High Representative/Vice-President of the Commission on behalf of the European Union of 1 July 2010 on the Appointment of a UN Panel of Experts on Accountability Issues in Sri Lanka,
 - having regard to the Joint Statement by the President of Sri Lanka and the UN Secretary-General of 23 May 2009,
 - having regard to Rule 122(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas 25 years of conflict, which ended with the defeat of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in 2009, have resulted in more than 90000 deaths,
- B. whereas on 22 June 2010 the UN Secretary-General announced the appointment of a Panel of Experts to advise him on the issue of accountability with regard to alleged violations of international humanitarian and human rights law during the final stages of the conflict in Sri Lanka,
- C. whereas the Panel found credible allegations of potential serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law committed both by the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE,
- D. whereas the UN Secretary-General has indicated that he is carefully reviewing the report's conclusions and recommendations,
1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General's Panel of Experts on Accountability in Sri Lanka, made public on 25 April 2011; believes that accountability is integral to the process of reconciliation;
 2. Notes that the Panel found credible allegations that comprise six core categories of potential serious violations committed by the LTTE, including killing civilians attempting to flee LTTE control, and five core categories of potential serious violations committed by the Government of Sri Lanka, including killing of civilians through widespread shelling;

3. Stresses that commitment on human rights and accountability was a key point of the Joint Statement issued by the President of Sri Lanka and the UN Secretary-General on 23 May 2009;
4. Welcomes the decision of the UN Secretary-General to respond positively to the Panel's recommendation for a review of the UN actions regarding the implementation of its humanitarian and protection mandates during the war in Sri Lanka , particularly in the last stages; notes that the UN Secretary-General has been recommended by the Panel of Experts to immediately proceed to establish an independent international mechanism, but has been advised that this will require host country consent or a decision from Member States through an appropriate intergovernmental forum;
5. Takes the view that, in the interests of justice and reconciliation in Sri Lanka, the allegations contained in the UN Panel of Experts report warrant a full, impartial and transparent investigation; encourages the Government of Sri Lanka to respond constructively to the recommendations made by the Panel of Experts;
6. Calls on the High Representative/Vice-President of the Commission, the Council and the Commission to support further efforts to strengthen the process of accountability in Sri Lanka;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the High Representative/Vice-President of the Commission, the Council, the Commission, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and the Government of Sri Lanka.