



Tamil Solidarity

For the rights of all workers and oppressed in Sri Lanka

இலங்கையில் ஒருக்கப்படும் அனைவரது உரிமைகளுக்கும் போராடும்

-தமிழ் தோழமை இயக்கம்.

205 Well Street
London E9 6QU

0044 790 8050 217

info@tamilsolidarity.org
www.TamilSolidarity.org

Model resolution

This branch/ union notes:

- Many reports, including from the UN, have exposed what amounted to a genocidal war against Tamil-speaking people in the north and east of Sri Lanka
- The repressive Sri Lankan government is trampling democratic rights:
 - **Freedom of speech** –opposition politicians, trade unionists, civil rights campaigners, and journalists continue to face repression and severe restrictions remain in place on the media.
 - **Freedom of assembly** - access to Tamil-speaking areas is strictly controlled and freedom of assembly does not exist.
 - **Workers' rights** - the establishment of so-called 'free-trade zones' is leading to the super-exploitation of labour, without trade union and other rights. The Sri Lankan government is brutally anti-union.
 - **The right to a decent life** - public services are being privatised, and workers' conditions are being attacked across the board. A military 'land grab' of the Tamil-speaking areas comparable to the settlement of Palestinian land is also taking place. This will also facilitate rapid commercialisation of the island's resources.
- The Tamil diaspora in Britain has shown tremendous determination in its struggle
- In 2012 the National Delegate Conference of Unison voted to affiliate to Tamil Solidarity, and to give maximum support to independent trade unions in Sri Lanka which is Tamil Solidarity's key demand;
- Tamil Solidarity's platform includes demands for an independent war crimes investigation consisting of representatives accountable to working class and poor people from all communities, chosen by them and observed by international trade union and human rights organisations; Support for independent trade unions with full trade union rights, free from intimidation and state interference; and defence of the right to self-determination which means support for a mass movement of Tamil workers and poor for the right to determine their own future. Full and equal rights of any minorities to be guaranteed in all areas.

This branch resolves:

- To affirm its solidarity with Tamil-speaking and all oppressed people in struggle in Sri Lanka
- To invite a speaker from Tamil Solidarity to inform members of its work in more detail
- To publicise the activity of Tamil Solidarity and other events organised by the Tamil community in defence of their rights.
- To support the development of independent trade unions in Sri Lanka and to help monitor the conditions in the free-trade zones
- To affiliate to Tamil Solidarity – affiliation fee is £50-£250 – or to make a one-off donation. Cheques payable to: Tamil Solidarity (Address above)
- To forward this motion to regional/national bodies of our union as appropriate, and encourage them to support/affiliate as appropriate