


**DRAFT**

**NAM STATEMENT**  
**SRI LANKA**

1. The Non Aligned Movement expresses its serious concern about the appointment of a Panel of Experts on Sri Lanka by the Secretary-General to advise him on the issue of accountability with regard to the alleged violations of International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law during the final stages of the conflict in Sri Lanka.
2. As reaffirmed by the Heads of State and the Government of the Movement during their 15<sup>th</sup> Summit in Sharm El Sheikh, Human Rights issues must be addressed within the global context through a constructive, dialogue based approach, in a fair and equal manner, with objectivity, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, non interference in the internal affairs of the States, impartiality, non selectivity and transparency as the guiding principles, taking into account inter alia, the political particularities of each country.
3. The NAM members are seriously concerned about the appointment of this Panel against the clearly expressed wishes of the country concerned and without any mandate from the Human Rights Council, Security Council or General Assembly.
4. The President of Sri Lanka has appointed a Commission of Inquiry on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2010 to inquire into any violations of international norms and standards during the conflict in Sri Lanka. It is a well recognized international norm that in situations where there are allegations or breaches of international law that the country concerned should in the

Secretary-General  
Press Release



first instance be allowed to conduct its own investigation and to make known its findings. In this instance, the Secretary-General has appointed a Panel on Sri Lanka to advise him on the modalities, applicable international standards and comparative experience with regard to accountability processes even before the Commission of Inquiry in Sri Lanka has commenced its inquiry and without any express request from any Member State or Group or UN body or without seeking the opinion of any Group of Member States or UN body.

5. The Non Aligned Movement expresses serious concern about the selective targeting of individual countries which it deems contrary to the founding principles of the Movement. In this context, the Movement firmly opposes the unilateral evaluation and certification of the conduct of States as a means of exerting pressure on Non Aligned countries and other developing countries.

30.6.2010