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## UNHRC passes resolution on Sri Lanka seeking another UN report

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**The resolution on Sri Lanka framed by the United States and the UK with the backing of 36 other Member States of the United Nations, passed with 23 of 47 Member States of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) voting for the resolution, 12 voting against and 12 abstaining. The resolution has failed to call for a full fledged independent international investigations and to propose an international mechanism to put an end to the ongoing genocide against the nation of Eelam Tamils. India and Japan have abstained from voting. Pakistan and Maldives voted against and South Korea voted for the US proposed resolution.**

The resolution in its operative paragraph 2 *called upon* the Government of Sri Lanka to conduct an independent and credible investigation into allegations of violations of international human rights law and in operational paragraph 10, *took note* of the recommendations and conclusions of the High Commissioner regarding ongoing human rights violations and the need for an international inquiry mechanism in the absence of a credible national process with tangible results, and *requested* the Office of the High Commissioner:

- a. To monitor the human rights situation in Sri Lanka and to continue to assess progress on relevant national processes;
- b. To undertake a comprehensive investigation into alleged serious violations and abuses of human rights and related crimes by both parties in Sri Lanka during the period covered by the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission, and to establish the facts and circumstances of such alleged violations and of the crimes perpetrated with a view to avoiding impunity and ensuring accountability, with assistance from relevant experts and special procedures mandate holders;
- c. To present an oral update to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-seventh session, and a comprehensive report followed by a discussion on the implementation of the present resolution at its twenty-eighth session;

The result of which would be another report by the OHCHR, but an endorsed report with a mandate from the Human Rights Council.

23 Member States that voted for the resolution: Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Macedonia, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

12 Member States that voted against the resolution: Algeria, China, Congo, Cuba, Kenya, Maldives, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela and Vietnam.

12 Member States that abstained from voting: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Morocco, Namibia, Philippines and South Africa.

The resolution was endorsed by the following countries:

Albania,\* Austria, Belgium,\* Bulgaria,\* Canada,\* Croatia,\* Cyprus,\* Denmark,\* Estonia, Finland,\* France, Georgia,\* Germany, Greece,\* Hungary,\* Iceland,\* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,\* Liechtenstein,\* Lithuania,\* Luxembourg,\* Mauritius,\* Montenegro, Netherlands,\* Norway,\* Poland,\* Portugal,\* Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis,\* Sierra Leone, Slovakia,\* Spain,\* Sweden,\* Switzerland,\* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.

(\* Non-Member State of the Human Rights Council)

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