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Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Written statement* submitted by African Green Foundation International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[02 June 2019]

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* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.

Stepping Stone to LTTE child soldering by Tamil Politicians in Sri Lanka

Disturbing news has come from the Northern Sri Lanka that schoolchildren and teachers were made to take part in a recent protest march, demanding the release of LTTE Tamil terrorist suspects in custody. Some Tamil politicians and some sinister elements seem to be working overtime to catch them young.

Tamil political parties and other outfits can stage such protests, and their right to do so cannot be questioned. But on no grounds should children be allowed to be involved in them. The LTTE Tamil terrorists used children in its war and many parents in the North and the East two provinces lost their precious ones in the hand of Tamil terrorists in Sri Lanka. The end of the war has brought much relief to parents. Children are attending school without fearing forcible conscription.

The UNHRC must look into the student protest in the North, calling for the release of LTTE Tamil terrorist as it would be a stepping stone for the next generation of Child soldiers. Actions shall be taken against the teachers who organized and Tamil politicians who exploited the Tamil children.

Children must not be used in political events in by the Tamil politicians. The onus is also on the parents of the northern students who were made to walk in the aforesaid protest march to ask the organizers of the event to leave their precious ones alone.

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Global Srilankan Forum Executive Committee, an NGO without consultative status, also shares the views expressed in this statement.