

Country/entity	Sri Lanka
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Tokyo Declaration on Reconstruction and Development of Sri Lanka
Date	10 Jun 2003
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

Sri Lankan Civil War (1983 - 2009)

The roots of the Sri Lanka conflict lay in British colonial policy which controlled the island from 1802 until 1948. During the early 1800s, the British brought Tamils from mainland India to work on the various plantations for tea, coffee and rubber, changing Sri Lanka's the demographic make-up. Upon independence, Sinhalese nationalism dominated the political sphere and introduced discriminatory policies against the Tamil minority straining relations and sparking protests. Armed Tamil resistance first came in the form of assassinations of moderate Tamils and opposition politicians in the mid-1970s. However, it was the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam's (LTTE) attack on checkpoint Four Four Bravo, which marked the turning point, sparking pogroms against Tamils in Sinhalese majority areas. This incident, known as Black July, is widely considered to the beginning of the civil war.

The first round of peace talks were backed by India, which had deployed the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in 1987, and led to the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. The Accord was successful in persuading the majority of insurgency groups to lay down arms. However, the strongest Tamil insurgency group, the LTTE, was not party to the talks and refused to disarm, sparking direct conflict between the IPKF and the LTTE until IPKF withdrawal 1990. Following the withdrawal, the LTTE consolidated their power in the North and East sparking another intense and bloody war with the central government that lasted until 2002 when another peace process was launched under the auspices of Norwegian negotiators. The second round of peace talks, however, only continued until April 2003 and in March 2004, a large faction of LTTE cadres split from the main organization damaging LTTE unity. The LTTE were defeated militarily by a large-scale government assault in 2009, however, the conditions for peace remain uncertain.

Close
Sri Lankan Civil War (1983 - 2009)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Sri Lanka LTTE 2002 onward process

Parties

Government of Sri Lanka.

Third parties

Opening statements by:

Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Junichiro Koizumi;
Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mr. Ranil Wickremesinghe

Conference co-chairs:

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ms. Yoriko Kawaguchi;
State Secretary, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Mr. Olav Kjoerven;
Deputy Secretary of State of the United States, Mr. Richard L. Armitage;
Mr. Ioannis Theophanopoulos, representing the Presidency of the European Union;
Mr. Bernhard Zepter, representing the European Commission

Other representatives:

Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Mr. A.S. Jayawardena;

List of representatives from 51 countries and 22 international organizations:

Commonwealth of Australia
Republic of Austria
People's Republic of Bangladesh
Kingdom of Belgium
Federative Republic of Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Kingdom of Cambodia
Canada
People's Republic of China
Kingdom of Denmark
Arab Republic of Egypt
Republic of Finland
French Republic
Federal Republic of Germany
Hellenic Greece
State of the City of Vatican
Republic of Iceland
India
Republic of Indonesia
Islamic Republic of Iran
Ireland
State of Israel
Republic of Italy
Japan
Republic of Korea
State of Kuwait
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
Malaysia
Kingdom of Nepal
Kingdom of the Netherlands
New Zealand
Kingdom of Norway
Sultanate of Oman
Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Republic of the Philippines
Portuguese Republic
Russian Federation
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Description Summary of the Hakone Conference in Japan, which was attended by the GOSL, but not the LTTE. The objective of the conference was to take note of the economic challenges of Sri Lanka; provide the international community with an opportunity to demonstrate its strong and unified commitment to the reconstruction and development of Sri Lanka; to promote the peace process; note the importance of humanitarian assistance; fund-raise to accomplish the aforementioned tasks; and emphasize the importance of developing the north east region and praise the "regain Sri Lanka" economic plan.

Agreement document [LK_030610_Tokyo Declaration on Reconstruction and Development of Sri Lanka.pdf](#) (opens in new tab) | [Download PDF](#)

Women, girls and gender

Participation Participation→Effective participation
Page 4-5, Linkage between Donor Support and Progress in the Peace Process
18. Assistance by the donor community must be closely linked to substantial and parallel progress in the peace process towards fulfilment of the objectives agreed upon by the parties in Oslo. The Conference encourages the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE to enter into discussions as early as possible on a provisional administrative structure to manage the reconstruction and development aspects of the transition process. The process would need the expeditious development of a roadmap with clear milestones indicating the path towards a mutually acceptable final political solution. With this in view, the international community intends to review and monitor the progress of the peace process closely, with particular reference to objectives and milestones including: ... g. Effective inclusion of gender equity and equality in the peace building, the conflict transformation and the reconstruction process, emphasizing an equitable representation of women in political fora and at other decision-making levels.

Equality Equality→Equality (general)
Page 4-5, Linkage between Donor Support and Progress in the Peace Process
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Particular groups of women No specific mention.

International law No specific mention.

New institutions No specific mention.

Violence against women No specific mention.

Transitional justice No specific mention.

Institutional reform No specific mention.

Development No specific mention.

Implementation No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

