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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE, GENEVA

56, rue de Moillebeau
1211 Geneva 19

UN/HCR/1 Vol. X

OIO. LKA

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and has the honour to forward a copy of the Exchange of Notes between the Embassy of Switzerland in Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka which took place on 12 January, 1994.

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka wishes to draw the particular attention of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to para (5) of the Note. In that context, the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka requests the UNHCR to act as a liaison between the returnees and the two parties to the agreement in order to assist in meeting particular problems encountered by the returnees.

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka wishes to add that the Sri Lanka authorities pledge to co-operate with the UNHCR in providing access to the returnees and to relevant documents.

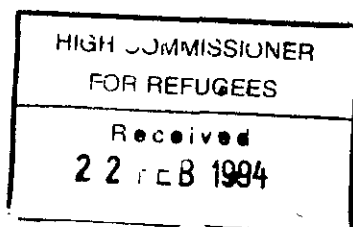
The Sri Lanka Ministry of Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Social Welfare will be the focal point to be contacted by UNHCR.

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka shall be glad to have the formal agreement of the UNHCR to this proposal.

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka avails itself of this opportunity to convey to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees the assurances of its highest consideration.

07 MAR 1994

Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees,
Centre William Rappard,
154, rue de Lausanne,
1202 Geneva.



No. UN/HR/86

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka presents its compliments to the Embassy of Switzerland and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Note of the Embassy No. 131.40 sd dated 10.01.1994 which reads as follows:

"The Embassy of Switzerland presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and has the honour to propose the following to regulate the return of Sri Lankan nationals who have been rejected under the procedures relating to the grant of asylum in Switzerland.

1. The parties agree on the fundamental need to ensure the return of Sri Lankan nationals in safety and dignity.
2. The Government of Sri Lanka will accept persons whom the Swiss authorities have decided to return, subject to the availability of acceptable proof that such persons are in fact citizens of Sri Lanka.

The Swiss authorities shall ensure that the attached questionnaire will be completed in respect of each returnee which will enable Sri Lankan authorities to ascertain in advance the citizenship of such returnee.

3. The returnees will be issued with valid travel documents prior to their departure such as a passport document of identity as may be determined by the competent Sri Lankan authorities.

4. The parties undertake to implement this arrangement in a phased manner in order to control the number of returnees and will consult each other for this purpose.
5. The parties agree and request the UNHCR to act as a liaison between the returnees and the two parties and to assist in meeting particular problems encountered by the returnees. The Government of Sri Lanka will designate a competent authority for the UNHCR to liaise on such problems and share with UNHCR information which may be required to perform this function. The modalities of such assistance shall be worked out separately between the parties and the UNHCR.
6. The competent Sri Lankan authorities will provide each returnee with a document containing his/her particulars and relevant addresses and telephone numbers of the Swiss Embassy, the UNHCR and the competent Sri Lankan authorities which would enable the returnees to bring to the attention of such authorities particular problems faced by them.
7. The competent Sri Lankan authorities will issue as expeditiously as possible, upon arrival of a returnees, necessary document/documents for purpose of residence in Sri Lanka.
8. A returnee will not be forced to proceed to uncleared areas against his/her free will. The competent Sri Lankan authorities will give due consideration to the need to make appropriate provision for returnees to reside in temporary holding centres until conditions permit the returnees to return to their original place of

permanent residence. These centres could be administered by the Sri Lanka Red Cross in cooperation with the competent Sri Lankan authorities.

9. The parties to this Arrangement will pursue the possibility of assistance which could appropriately be given to the returnees, including assistance of the UNHCR and the Government of Switzerland.
10. The present Arrangement shall remain valid for a period of two years effective from the date of the exchange of these Notes. The parties may enter into consultations thereafter with a view to reviewing the aforesaid provisions and extending their applicability, subject to any modification which may become necessary. Such extension shall be effected through an exchange of Diplomatic Notes.

If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the Embassy has the honour to suggest that the present note, together with the Ministry's reply, shall constitute an Agreement between the two Governments.

The Embassy of Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka the assurances of its highest consideration."

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is pleased to confirm that the contents of the Embassy's Note No. 131.40 sd dated 10.01.1994 are acceptable to the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and that the said Note of the Embassy of Switzerland and this Note in reply shall constitute an Agreement between the two Governments.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Switzerland the assurances of its highest consideration.

DECLARATION FORM

Form No :

To be filled by Sri Lankans
Temporarily Resident in
European Countries

Serial No.

Photograph
35 X 45 mm.

Issued by the Consulate General
of Sri Lanka - Geneva

- 1. (a). Name :
.....
- (b). Date of Birth :
- (c). Father's Name :
.....

- 2. (a). Are you Married? :
- (b). If so give name of spouse :
- (c). Names of children, if any, : (i)
(ii)
(iii)

- 3. (a). Permanent Residence
in Sri Lanka :
- (b). Address :
.....
.....
- (c). Name of the Village
Gramasevaka's Division :

4. (a). Give names of schools you were educated :

(b). Give names of employers, if you were employed in Sri Lanka :

5. (a). Give names of next of kin or friend who will be in a position to give information about you :

(b). In Colombo :

(c). In other districts :

e
6. (a). Passport No :

(b). Identity Card No. :

(c). Driving Licence No :
Savings A/c No. :

7. (a). When did you leave Sri Lanka
Pls. give exact date :

(b). By which Airline did
you leave :

8. (a). Your present address :

(b). Documents of Identity,
if any. :

Signature

Name :

Date :