



Centre Catholique International de Coopération avec l'UNESCO

To the attention of His Excellency Mr. B. K. ATHAUDA
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France,
Permanente Delegate to UNESCO

The International Catholic Center for Cooperation with Unesco-ICCC-, a NGO of catholic inspiration platform, Unesco's partner since 1947, expresses to the government of Sri Lanka its deepest compassion for the victims' families of the unbearable terrorist attacks against catholic churches and hotels claiming lives of more than 270 victims. The local populations endure unsettling traumas that could turn into a violent communitarism that would be dangerous for the stability of the country. Out of experience, it is the worry of the non governmental associations which are close to the most fragile people in this magnificent country of Sri Lanka.

The ICCC agrees with the resolution of the government of Sri Lanka to do whatever is needed to find the culprits and place them where they cannot do any harm.

The closing of the catholic places of worship that was decided by the authorities conveys the concern of the political leaders, but it is traumatic for the worshipers who cannot meet anymore in these churches to pray and share their pain feelings.

The ICCC shares the words of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, who has called to restore in Sri Lanka the traditional peaceful coexistence of the populations from different religions and cultures that has been rebuilt for many years.

The international catholic community wishes that the violent and deadly terrorist attacks against churches and christian populations be condemned by the international bodies at the UNO, thereby supporting the affected states.

Paris, the 26th of april 2019

Christine Roche
President