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Paul MURPHY Member of the European Parliament

16/06/2011

Dear friends and comrades,

On behalf of the Socialist Party in Ireland, and our International the CWI including the Socialist Party in England & Wales, I send you my support to the cricket protests.

I and the Socialist Party are completely opposed to all discrimination. We condemn the continued oppression of Tamil people by the Sri Lankan government and state forces. We condemn too the conspiracy of silence between Rajapakse's regime and his international collaborators, including the British government. The governments of big business are interested only in profits, to be made from the miserable conditions of Tamils and working people generally in Sri Lanka.

I congratulate Tamil people and activists for protesting outside the cricket matches. I especially congratulate TYO and Tamil Solidarity for organising these protests. In the European Parliament, I helped Tamil Solidarity to organise a recent international meeting of Tamil people and organisations. This drew attention to the desperate situation facing Tamil people. As a member of the South Asia delegation I have also raised the issue of human rights in Sri Lanka on many occasions.

I will continue to do everything I can to assist the fight for equality and human rights. Across Europe, I will assist Tamil people and campaigns. I believe Tamil Solidarity is doing very important work in building links between the Diaspora and trade unions and community organisations. I urge Tamil people and their organisations to continue organising big demonstrations and linking up with other workers and oppressed people internationally.

Oppression can be defeated. The Socialist Party and the CWI will continue to support a mass movement of Tamil workers and poor against discrimination, for national rights and socialism as part of a socialist transformation of Asia and the world

In solidarity

Paul Murphy MEP

Socialist Party,

Dublin, Ireland.