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சுற்றாடல் நீதிக்கான கேந்திர நிலையம் உத்தரவாதத்தால் (வரையறுக்கப்பட்ட)
Centre for Environmental Justice (Guarantee) Limited



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18 July 2014

Head,
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And

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LETTER OF INTENT TO JOIN GAELP

The Center for Environmental Justice (CEJ) has been working for phasing out lead since 2009 through our first study on the Global study on Lead in new decorative paints. CEJ has been acting on various fields with number of stakeholders, towards preventing lead contamination. Thereby, we express our interest in contributing towards accomplishment of GAELP objectives with our fullest cooperation.

The contribution that we would like to make to the work of the Global Alliance is a) Raising awareness of toxicity to human health and the environment; b) Guidance and assistance to identify potential lead exposure; c) Assistance to industry (manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers) and e) Promote national regulatory framework. With our immense experiences and work on these fields, CEJ would be happy to become a contributor in order to assist in achieving the goals of GAELP.

CEJ conducts projects and programs in the areas of science, law and advocacy, and provides free legal aid and trainings to marginalized communities to protect their environmental rights. CEJ got onboard in eliminating Lead paints with its research conducted together with the Toxic link based in India to test the lead levels in paint and found very high levels in some paint. After successful discussions with the paint manufacturers and the relevant agencies Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI) produced National Lead Paint Standards in 2010. To make it mandatory CEJ filed a public interest lawsuit in the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka and succeeded by obtaining the gazette notification on Lead standards to be effective from 1st January 2013.

We are working towards taking every measure possible to make our children live in a lead safe environment through being a partner at “Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project” together with the IPEN. In which, we attempt to get the commitment of Government officials to implement the law, paint manufactures to produce lead safe paints, retailers to sell lead safe paints and general public to elevate a demand for lead safe paint while raising awareness on effects of this hazardous chemical.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to being accepted as a member of GAELP and to contribute further to its mission.

Sincerely yours,

Centre for Environmental Justice

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Hemantha Withanage', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hemantha Withanage,
Executive Director,