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Glenn D. Paige (1928-2017)

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**Máiread Maguire** (N. Ireland) Nobel Peace Laureate (1976)

**Óscar Arias** (Costa Rica) Nobel Peace Laureate (1987)

J. E. Aristizábal "Juanes" (Colombia) Grammy-winning singer and activist

Federico Mayor Zaragoza (Spain) Former Director-General, UNESCO

**Neelakanta Radhakrishnan** (India) Founder, Council of Gandhian Studies

Bernard Lafayette, Jr. (USA) Activist leader, Civil Rights Movement

**Ilya Prigogine**, in memoriam (Russia) Nobel Chemistry Laureate (1977)

Robert Muller, in memoriam (Belgium) Co-Founder, UN University for Peace

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CONTACTS www.nonkilling.org info@nonkilling.org 3653 Tantalus Drive Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822-5033 United States Human Rights Council 48<sup>th</sup> session Universal Periodic Review of Sierra Leone Geneva, 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2021

Madam President, Dear Human Beings, Excellency's, Dear delegation of Sierra Leone, Ladies and Gentlemen, Greetings of peace and of understanding,

The Center for Global Nonkilling addresses this message to you, in your professional capacity, congratulations, but also because of all our personal and common responsibilities, our commitment in favor of our humankind.

Foremost, we laud the Government of Sierra Leone for its decision to ratify the Convention on the prevention and the punishment of the crime of Genocide, as recommended by Armenia (143.19). Thank you.

Secondly, we call for a swift ratification of the Convention, more than not for the sake of genocide prevention, but also for the good use of the UPR process, as similar recommendations were already accepted in the previous cycle (111.33-34).

Thirdly, we note with great appreciation the fact that Sierra Leone has a focal point for the Responsibility to Protect, for the prevention of genocide and of mass atrocity crimes.

Sustainable Goal 16.1 calls on us to reduce violence and related killings. Prevention of genocide of course participates in achieving this high goal.

Hoping to celebrate this ratification soon, we wish to Sierra Leone and its people a nonkilling future and a happy and effective implementation of its UPR conclusions.

Thank you Madam President.