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## **Preface**

This Research Report is published by the Institute for Peace Science, Hiroshima University in cooperation with the University of Colombo. More specifically, the research was conducted as part of the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research provided by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. This report is intended to explore peacebuilding issues in Sri Lanka with the interest in the principle of ownership of local society. The principle of ownership is one of the most important issues in any kind of peacebuilding. Since Afghanistan is the latest member of the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), an article on statebuilding in Afghanistan is included since peace in South Asia is very much a concern to development activities of Sri Lanka. The editor hopes that this research report will enhance our understanding of the issue so that we can better implement peacebuilding activities in the future.