

Annexure 1

Immediate Business Opportunity: Disaster Recovery & Business Continuity Operations at Colombo Port City

In light of heightened geopolitical and operational risks in certain regions, including the Middle East, multinational enterprises are actively seeking **neutral, secure alternative locations** to strengthen business continuity and operational resilience.

Colombo Port City, Sri Lanka's Special Economic Zone, presents an immediate opportunity for such enterprises to establish **Disaster Recovery Centres (DRCs)** and **business continuity nucleus operations** to complement existing regional hubs.

Key features of this opportunity include:

- Establishment of **alternate and backup sites** supporting primary operations in other regions
- **Nucleus or satellite operations** with small, high-impact teams ensuring continuity of critical functions
- Ability to support **secondary data centre and disaster recovery operations**, as part of global continuity strategies
- **Rapid deployability**, with access to Grade-A office space and the ability to relocate expatriate teams at short notice
- Strategic location with **convenient access to Bandaranaike International Airport**

The **Colombo Port City Economic Commission (CPCEC)** functions as the **Single Window Investment Facilitator**, coordinating and expediting regulatory approvals, licences, and permits required to establish and commence operations within the Colombo Port City Special Economic Zone.

Process to Establish Operations

Step 1 – Registration as an “Authorised Person”

Entities seeking to operate within Colombo Port City are required to register as an **Authorised Person**.

Applications, required documentation, and guidance are available via:

<https://www.portcitycolombo.gov.lk/>

Given the time-sensitive nature of disaster recovery and continuity operations, the **Colombo Port City Economic Commission will fast-track the approval process**, enabling commencement of operations within a short period.

Step 2 – Designation as a “Business of Strategic Importance (BSI)”

Eligible entities may apply for designation as a **Business of Strategic Importance**, enabling access to enhanced fiscal and non-fiscal incentives under the Colombo Port City framework.

Designation is subject to **Cabinet approval**, which is typically granted within **4–6 weeks**.

Sri Lanka’s foreign missions are encouraged to share this opportunity with multinational corporations, global capability centres, and enterprises exploring alternative or supplementary locations for disaster recovery and business continuity operations.