

The Law Relating to Registration of Organizations
(Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 31)

7th Waning day of Waso 1376

(18th day of July 2014)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw hereby enacts this Law.

Chapter (I)

Title and Definition

1. This law shall be called the Law Relating to Registration of Organizations.
2. The following expressions in this law shall have the meanings as defined:-
 - (a) “State” means The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 - (b) “Union Government” means Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 - (c) “Union Registration Committee” means the committee, fully entrusted and delegated by Union Government to undertake the registration process related to Union level Organizations.
 - (d) “Region (or) State Registration Committee” means the committee, fully entrusted and delegated by Region (or) State Government to undertake the registration process related to Region or State level Organizations.
 - (e) “Nay Pyi Taw Council Registration Committee” means the committee, fully entrusted and delegated by Nay Pyi Taw Council to undertake the registration process related to Nay Pyi Taw Council level Organizations.
 - (f) “Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body Registration Committee” means the committee, fully entrusted and delegated by Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body to undertake the registration process related to Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body level Organizations.

- (g) “Divisional Registration Committee” means the committee, fully entrusted and delegated by Divisional Administration Department to undertake the registration process related to Divisional level Organizations.
- (h) “Township Registration Committee” means the committee, fully entrusted and delegated by Township Administration Department to undertake the registration process related to Township level Organizations.
- (i) “Organization” means local organizations and international non-governmental organization.
- (j) “Local Organization” means local non-profit civil society, organized with five or more persons for the benefit of state and citizens in line with the fundamental rights stated in the constitution and also either for an objective or for an activity or for common interests of the members. The expression includes branches of the organization.
- (k) “International Non Governmental Organization” means an organization formed in a foreign country and registered with Union Registration Committee with intention to perform any social activity within the country.
- (l) “Certificate of Registration” means a certificate acknowledging as of registered Local or International Non Governmental Organization.
- (m) “Ministry” means Ministry of Home Affairs of Union Government.
- (n) “Directorate” means Directorate of General Administration under Ministry of Home Affairs.

Chapter (II)

Objectives

3. The objectives of this law are as follows:-

- (a) To comply with this law for registration of organizations;

- (b) To organize and activate independently in compliance with the provisions promulgated in the state constitution;
- (c) To help development of state and citizens through activities of the organizations;
- (d) To seek co-operations of the concerned ministry in implementing their projects;
- (e) To strengthen Civil Societies;

Chapter (III)

Formation of registration committees at different level and its duties

4. In order to perform registration process of organizations, registration committees shall be formed as follows;
 - (a) Union registration committee
 - (b) Region or state registration committee
 - (c) Nay Pyi Taw Council registration committee
 - (d) Self-administered region or self-administered state registration committee
 - (e) Divisional Registration Committee
 - (f) Township Registration Committee
5. (a) Union Government shall organize Union registration committee with the following personals:

(1) Union Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs	Chairman
(2) Deputy Minister, President Office	Member
(3) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Member
(4) Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development	Member

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| (5) Director General | Member |
| Directorate of Foreign Economic Relation | |
| (6) Director General | Secretary |
| Directorate of Home Affairs | |
| (7) Director General | Joint Secretary |
| Attorney General Office | |
- (b) Region or State Government shall organize Region or State Registration committee with the following personals:
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| (1) Mister of Public Relations | Chairman |
| (2) Region or State Police Colonel | Member |
| (3) Two representatives from region or state civil society | Members |
| (4) Director, Region or State Administration Department | Secretary |
| (5) Region or State Law Officer | Joint Secretary |
| Region or State Law Office | |
- (c) Nay Pyi Taw Council shall organize Nay Pyi Taw Council Registration Committee with the following personals:
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| (1) Nay Pyi Taw Council member | Chairman |
| (2) Nay Pyi Taw Police Colonel, Myanmar Police Force | Member |
| (3) Two representatives from Nay Pyi Taw Council civil society | Members |
| (4) Director, Nay Pyi Taw General Administration Department | Secretary |
| (5) Divisional Law Officer, Divisional Law Office | Joint Secretary |

(d) Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body shall organize Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body Registration Committee with the following personals:

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| (1) Executive member of Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body | Chairman |
| (2) Divisional police colonel, Myanmar Police Force | Member |
| (3) Two representatives from Self-administered Division or Self-administered Zone Leading Body civil society | Members |
| (4) Deputy Director, Divisional General Administration Department | Secretary |
| (5) Law Officer, delegated by Chairman | Joint Secretary |

(e) Divisional Administrator, Divisional General Administration Department shall organize Divisional Registration Committee with the following personals:

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| (1) Divisional Administrator
Divisional General Administration Department | Chairman |
| (2) Divisional Police Colonel
Myanmar Police Force | Member |
| (3) Two representatives from divisional level civil society | Members |
| (4) Deputy Director
Divisional Administration Department | Secretary |
| (5) Divisional Law Officer, Divisional Law Office | Joint Secretary |

(f) Township Administrator, Township Administration Department shall organize Township Registration Committee with the following personals:

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| (1) Township Administrator
Township Administration Department | Chairman |
| (2) Township Police Officer
Myanmar Police Force | Member |
| (3) Two representatives from township level civil society | Members |
| (4) Head of the Department
Township Administration Department | Secretary |
| (5) Township Law Officer
Township Law Office | Joint Secretary |

6. Duties and responsibilities of the Registration Committees are as follows:

- (a) To pass decision as to application on registration of organizations;
- (b) To issue certificate of registration and renewal certificate to local organizations;
- (c) To help organizations with their implementation process to be proper and in compliance with the law;
- (d) To help the organizations in coordination with departments concerned for smooth implementation of their objectives and activities;
- (e) Union level registration committee shall undertake registration and renewal process of the International Non-governmental Organizations and to undertake registration and renewal process of the local organizations which shall implement their projects all over the country.
- (f) To pass decision as to denial of permission and renewal of registration upon the grounds, that the organization violates any of the provisions stipulated in this law, rules, notifications, orders, directives and regulations.

Chapter (IV)

Approval of registration for Local Organizations

7. Local organizations, upon their voluntary decision, by Chairman or Secretary of any authorized person of the organization shall submit application to the registration committee concerned stating the following particulars.

- (a) Name of the Organization
- (b) Address and contact address
- (c) Commencement date of formation
- (d) Objectives
- (e) Activities
- (f) Number of executives
- (g) Number of members
- (h) Fund and assets owned by the organization
- (i) Activities, performed
- (j) Organizational structure and scheme
- (k) Other particulars (if any)
- (l) Date of application

8. In compliance with section 7, Registration Committee concerned shall issue temporary registration certificate to the organization within (7) days (excluding official gazetted holidays) with effect from the date of application. Then after scrutinizing in accordance with the prescribed particulars:-

- (a) May approve the application for registration with conditions if there is no reason that shall affect the rule of law and security of the state. Upon

decision as to approve, the registration certificate shall be issued to the applicant within the time frame stated below. The time frame shall be calculated with effect from the date of application.

(1) Union Registration Committee 90-days

(2) Region or State Registration Committee 60-days

(3) Nay Pyi Taw Council Registration Committee 60-days

(4) Self-administered Region or Self-administered 30-days

Zone Leading Body

(5) Divisional Registration Committee 30-days

(6) Township Registration Committee 30-days

(b) The organization which is approved for registration shall deposit prescribed registration fees prior to the issuance of registration certificate.

(c) If the application for registration is denied, the reply letter disclosing the full reasons for denial shall be forwarded to the applicant within the prescribed days as stated below.

(1) Union Registration Committee 30-days

(2) Region or State Registration Committee 30-days

(3) Nay Pyi Taw Council Registration Committee 30-days

(4) Self-administered Region or Self-administered 15-days

Zone Leading Body

(5) Divisional Registration Committee 15-days

(6) Township Registration Committee 15-days

9. Upon receipt of letter for denial of registration from the committee concerned, the organization that applies for approval of registration has the

right to inquire about the reasons for denial with the committee concerned and can reapply after fulfilling the requirements.

10. The organization that has registered with Union Registration Committee can implement its activities all over the country. Registration fees shall be MMK 100,000 (One Hundred Thousand MMK).
11. The organization that has registered with Region or State Registration Committee can implement its activities within the Region or State concerned. Registration fees shall be MMK 30,000 (Thirty Thousand MMK).
12. The organization that has registered with Nay Pyi Taw Council Registration Committee can implement its activities within the Nay Pyi Taw Council vicinity. Registration fees shall be MMK 30,000 (Thirty Thousand MMK).
13. The organization that has registered with Self-administered Region or Self-administered Zone Leading Body can implement its activities within the area of Self-administered Region or Self-administered Zone Leading Body. No registration fee is required.
14. The organization that has registered with Divisional Registration Committee can implement its activities within the area of division concerned. No registration fee is required.
15. The organization that has registered with Township Registration Committee can implement its activities within the area of township concerned. No registration fee is required.

Chapter (V)

Approval of registration for International Non-governmental Organization

16. International Non-governmental Organization must apply to get registration to the Union Registration Committee by the authorized person from the INGO, stating the following particulars.
 - (a) Name of the organization

- (b) Name of the person in authority
- (c) Name of the officer in-charge
- (d) Address and contact address
- (e) Name of the country that the organization head office situate
- (f) The activities that are to be implemented in Myanmar
- (g) Name of the affiliated Ministries
- (h) Project details
- (i) Numbers of members
- (j) Branch office and its address
- (k) Name of the officer in-charge of the branch office
- (l) Date of application

17. In compliance with section 16, Union Registration Committee shall issue temporary registration certificate to the organization within (7) days (excluding official gazetted holidays) with effect from the date of application. Then after scrutinizing in accordance with the prescribed particulars:-

- (a) May approve the application for registration with conditions if there is no reason that shall affect the rule of law and security of the state. Upon decision as to approve, the registration certificate shall be issued to the applicant within 90 days.
- (b) The organization, if approved for registration, the prescribed registration fees must be deposited. Registration fees shall be MMK 100,000 (One Hundred Thousand MMK).
- (c) Upon decision for denial of registration, the reply letter with full reasons for the denial shall be forwarded to the organization within 30 days.

18. Upon receipt of letter for denial of registration from the committee concerned, the organization that applies for approval of registration has the right to inquire about the reasons for denial with the committee concerned and can reapply after fulfilling the requirements.

Chapter (VI)

The organizations which are not required to apply for registration

19. The organizations that do not require to apply for registration are as follows:
- (a) Organizations that pursue religious activity and business only;
 - (b) Political parties those are to submit application to Union Election Commission in compliance with the Political Parties Registration Law;
 - (c) Organizations registered under any prevailing laws;

Chapter (VII)

Renewal and Extension of organizations' registration certificate

20. Registered local organizations shall:-

- (a) Submit annual report together with financial statement to Registration Committee concerned;
- (b) It shall presume that the organization is active subject to yearly submission of annual report and must extend the registration certificate once in every five years term.
- (c) No registration fee is required for extension with reference to condition stated in (b).

21. Registered International Non Governmental Organization has the right to extend once in every five year term. Prescribed registration fee must be paid for extension.

22. If registered organizations fail to submit annual report continuously throughout five years term it shall presume that the organization has no

activities and it needs to apply for fresh application in order to implement its activities.

23. For those local organizations, which are not allowed for renewal and or abrogated, can activate until 60 days with effect from the date they receive the reply letter. It has the right to inquire about the reasons for denial with the committee concerned and can reapply after fulfilling the requirements.
24. For those international non-governmental organizations, which are not allowed for extension and or abrogated, or any other local organizations which intend to implement its activities all over the country can activate until 120 days with effect from the date they receive the reply letter. They have the right to inquire about the reasons for denial with the committee concerned and can reapply after fulfilling the requirements.

Chapter (VIII)

Protection of associations and privileges

25. All the activities implemented in compliance with prevailing laws by any registered organizations shall be legally supported and protected by Ministry and regional administration departments.
26. Any registered local organization is competent to accept aid provided by the State.
27. Any registered local organization is competent to accept support in accordance with the prevailing law, provided by the Government of a foreign country or International Non-governmental organization or Local Organization or any individual.
28. Any registered local organization is vested with the right to sue or be sued, set up its own core fund, can collect donations according to prevailing law, and can open bank account and right to own moveable and immoveable properties.
29. Any registered local organization is vested with patent right in accordance with the prevailing law for its logo, signs and design of uniforms.

Chapter (IX)

General provisions

30. Any political party member can participate in the registered local organization without involving political party affairs.
31. Any government servant can participate in the registered local organization in accordance with the provisions stated in the Government Servant Conduct Rule.
32. While collaborating, the organizations must observe accountability and respect equal rights as to right and entitlement.
33. If any registered organization has to deviate its activities, which have been approved accordingly stated aforesaid, must seek permission from the registration committee concerned.
34. Any local organization intends to change its status from township level to region or state level, and then it must apply to the registration committee concerned in accordance with the provisions stated in this law.
35. Any local organization has the right to participate in every activity all over the country at the time of national disaster subject to inform the administrative body and registration committee concerned.
36. If any unregistered International Non-governmental Organization has intention to participate its humanitarian activities within any part of the country, it must apply to Union Registration Committee. Union Registration Committee shall issue temporary certificate immediately.
37. Any organization, upon dissolution, changing of name and address must inform in writing to the registration committee, of which the registration had been made within seven days.
38. Any organization, upon voluntary resignation of members, death and changes of members made on account of certain reason must inform in writing to the registration committee, which issued the certificate.

39. Authorized representatives from the local organizations selected for the registration approval committee at different level can be delegated once in two years term at their own decision of each and every organization.

40. While performing the provisions stated in this law:-

(a) The Ministry can issue necessary bye-law, rules and regulations with approval of the Union Government.

(b) Union Registration Committee can issue necessary notification, order, directives and procedures.

(c) Region or State registration committee and Self-administered region or self-administered state registration committee can issue necessary orders and directives.

41. By-laws, procedures, orders and directives promulgated in compliance with the organization law (SLORC Law No. 6/88) shall avail if not contrary to this Law.

42. All the local organizations, formed in accordance with the organization law (SLORC Law No. 6/88) shall be presumed as competent organization that is formed in accordance with this law.

43. Organization Law (SLORC Law No. 6/88) shall be repealed by this law.

I duly sign in accordance with State Constitution Law.

Sd./ (Thein Sein)

President

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

This is to certify that this unofficial translation is made by U Hla Myint, Advocate.

Hla Myint

Advocate and Legal Consultant

Shwe Thi Ha Consulting