

Amyotha Hluttaw carries on first regular session for fourth day.
15- member Hluttaw Rights Committee formed.
Suitable number of members, nominations for members, chairman and secretary
will be submitted to the hluttaw for approval

NAY PYI TAW, 4 March-The first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the fourth day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this morning.

Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint declared the session valid as 222 or 99.55 per cent of the 223 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives were present, thus announcing the start of the session.

The speaker exercising the power bestowed under Article 20 of Amyotha Hluttaw Law reported to Amyotha Hluttaw that the Ministry of Immigration and Population had informed that when Daw Cho Nwe Oo of Bago Region Constituency (7) was born, her father had not been neutralized yet; that according to Article 11 (f) of Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law, she was no longer legitimate to stand as an Amyotha Hluttaw representative; and that, U Khin Maung Lay of Bago Region Constituency (8) would be in place of Daw Cho Nwe Oo who had appointed as member of the Public Accounts Committee. With the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw, the speaker declared U Khin Maung Lay as member of the Public Accounts Committee.

The Amyotha Hluttaw speaker said that a hluttaw rights committee shall be formed with no more than 15 members under Amyotha Hluttaw Rules 33 and 54; and that a suitable number of members, and nominations for members, the chairman and the secretary of the committee will be submitted to the hluttaw for approval.

He said that then the hluttaw shall designate the number, duties, powers, rights and terms of committee members according to Article 27 of Amyotha Hluttaw Law and Rules 34; that so the Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee is scheduled to be formed with 15 members; that after one year the members' assumption of duties, reviews will be carried out, old members will be replaced with new ones as necessary; and that the deputy speaker will make clarification to the committee's duties, powers, privileges and rights to be designated by the hluttaw.

The deputy Amyotha Hluttaw speaker clarified duties, powers, privileges and rights of the Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee.

Duties of Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee are as follows: -

(1) the committee:

(a) shall scrutinize the matters transferred to it, as follows:-

(1) making a decision based on facts about the matters transferred to it whether the matters violate the rights of Amyotha Hluttaw,

(2) making a decision what violates the rights and how,

(3) reporting to Amyotha Hluttaw to suggest what action Amyotha Hluttaw should take regarding the case,

(b) subject to the provisions in para (a), the committee in its report shall suggest how Amyotha Hluttaw should do to accomplish the suggestion,

(c) it has the right to submit a report to Amyotha Hluttaw if so may require in order that Amyotha Hluttaw can deal regional or international hluttaws.

(2) in general, in scrutinizing matters according to above mentioned responsibilities, the committee:

(a) does not need to ascertain support regarding tabling motions and submitting suggestions.

(b) Committee members have the right to hold discussions more than one time in a matter.

(3) What a committee member says or does and discussions at a committee meeting shall not be leaked out. All the discussions held in committee meetings shall be recorded and approved by the committee. Meeting minutes shall not be handed out. A copy of the report to Amyotha Hluttaw shall be dispatched to Hluttaw Office in order that the case can be kept in the case file together with meeting minutes.

Powers of the committee are:-

(1) Committee meetings shall be convened in accordance with the provisions of Amyotha Hluttaw Rule 61.

(2) (a) The committee chairman, or the secretary (when the chairman is away), or a member (when the chairman and the secretary are away) shall submit the committee's report to Amyotha Hluttaw.

(b) The committee shall convene meetings occasionally to assess a right matter transferred to it, and shall submit the reports to Amyotha Hluttaw on the designated day. Provided that Amyotha Hluttaw does

not designate a date to submit the report, the committee shall submit the case to Amyotha Hluttaw within one month from the day Amyotha Hluttaw hands over a right mater to the committee.

(c) Committee members shall put their signatures on the report to show their approval. If there is an exception or difference, they may attach exceptions and differences to the report with their signatures.

(d) Provided that the committee is unable to submit a final report on schedule, it shall submit an interim report.

(3) In discharging duties, the committee:-

(a) has the right to summon related persons for questioning. It also has the right to summon related persons to evidence necessary documents and records. If occasion arises to decide whether or not the statement or documents and evidences of a person are related to functions of the committee, the committee chairman has the right to submit the case to Amyotha Hluttaw for a decision.

The decision made by the Amyotha Hluttaw speaker shall be final. The Union Government has the right to deny a document or record in case of harming national security and interest.

(b) shall issue a written summon for a related person to provide a statement or submit documents or evidences before the committee. The committee has the right to decide whether or not the statement or documents and evidences should be kept secret.

(c) may invite experienced officials in coordination with the departments and organizations concerned for advice.

(4) If occasion arises, the committee shall invite the Union Attorney-General to the committee meetings for legal advice.

(5) (a) After the committee's report has been submitted to Amyotha Hluttaw, the committee chairman or the secretary (when the chairman is away), or a member (when the chairman and the secretary are away) shall submit a case for the Amyotha Hluttaw speaker to assess the report on the designated day.

(b) After Amyotha Hluttaw has assessed the case submitted according to para (a), the initiator shall submit the case to Amyotha Hluttaw for approval.

(6) Committee members:

(a) have the freedom of speech and the right to vote subject to the provisions of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Amyotha Hluttaw Laws.

(b) have the rights to be members of in maximum two hluttaw committees of Amyotha Hluttaw.

(c) have the right to submit resignation letters to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker with sound reasons.
Privileges and rights of a committee member

(1) Committee members, being Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, have the rights to enjoy relevant privileges described in law on allowance and expense as well as privileges granted by the Union Government while they are at the committee head office or on a duty trip to carry out functions of the committee.

(2) Committee members-

(a) shall not be taken action against other laws except under Amyotha Hluttaw Law regarding discussion held at committee meetings,

(b) shall not be arrested while the committee is in session without the prior approval of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the organization concerned,

(c) shall, if he is arrested under a crime, have the right to attend committee meetings with the approval of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, until a verdict is delivered against him.

Afterwards, names of the designated persons to be included in Hluttaw Rights Committee were announced and the session was adjourned for discussion with Amyotha Hluttaw representatives who are joining the committee.

When the session was resumed, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker submitted nomination of suitable numbers of members of committee, committee members, chairman and secretary for formation of Hluttaw Rights Committee to Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with Section 21 of Amyotha Hluttaw Law and Rules 33 and 54 of Amyotha Hluttaw Rule.

Members nominated to the post of committee members are-

- 1) U Mya Nyein Yangon Region Constituency (7)
- (2) U J Yawwu Kachin State Constituency (12)
- (3) U Bo Yel Kayah State Constituency (3)
- (4) U Saw Tawpale Kayin State Constituency (7)
- (5) U Hui Yein Chin State Constituency (11)
- (6) U Naing Tun Ohn Mon State Constituency (5)
- (7) U Myat Ko Sagaing Region Constituency (12)
- (8) U Tin Maung Myint Taninthayi Region Constituency (3)
- (9) U Ye Myint Bago Region Constituency (4)
- (10) U Aung Nyein Magway Region Constituency (2)
- (11) U Win Maung Mandalay Region Constituency (2)
- (12) U Nyunt Tin Yangon Region Constituency (2)
- (13) U Nu Yangon Region Constituency (10)
- (14) U Kyaw Kyaw Rakhine State Constituency (2)
- (15) U Nay Win Tun Shan State Constituency (9)

U Mya Nyein of Yangon Region Constituency (7) will be assigned as the committee chairman and U Aung Nyein of Magway Region Constituency (2) as the secretary.

Next, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker sought approval for numbers and names of the committee members, and the chairman and secretary, duties, powers and rights of the committee from Amyotha Hluttaw and then announced the approval.

Afterwards, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced the fourth day of the first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw ended and the fifth day regular session would be held at 10 am on 7th March.

The session came to an end at 11.10 am.

Source: NLM 2011-03-05