



ညီညွတ်သောတိုင်းရင်းသားလူမျိုးများဖက်ဒရယ်ကောင်စီ
UNITED NATIONALITIES FEDERAL COUNCIL (UNION OF BURMA)

The UNFC PRESS RELEASE

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For the public information and analysis of the current political and social conditions, we, the Ethnic Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC), hold a press conference for the media and issue a press release as follows.

1. Political Situation after the By-elections

The UNFC had issued its position statement, dated April 3, congratulating Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD for their victory in the by-elections held on April 1, 2012 and had expressed the belief that they would be a viable support for the internal peace process led by President U Thein Sein.

The main point is the declaration made by the UNFC to cooperate with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD in their effort, whether inside the parliament or outside of the parliament, for the achievement of their objectives being:

- (1) Internal Peace;
- (2) Rule of Law;
- (3) Amendment of the 2008 Constitution.

2. The State of UNFC

Starting from the beginning of its formation, the UNFC is based on nationalities, which have united together, without discrimination as to size or strength. Similarly, as mutual recognition has been established with regard to each organization's national right to self-determination, message has been given to the effect that each organization can individually undertake preliminary ceasefire talks and make preliminary ceasefire agreement. Depending on differences as to the base areas, strength of forces and local populations, some UNFC member organizations have entered into preliminary ceasefire agreements with governments of either the states or regional divisions concerned.

However, all the member organizations have agreed unanimously to hold political dialogue as a bloc at the union level meetings and the business of meetings for political dialogue has to be undertaken by the union government, including the business of nationwide ceasefire. We would like to clarify that there is no differences of opinion in the UNFC as it has laid down the provision that there shall be one and only one position (one voice) with regard to amendment of the 2008 Constitution for the establishment of a Genuine Union, or a Federal Union.

3. Immediate Programs of the UNFC

(3-1) Meeting of the UNFC Peace Delegation and the Union Government Peace Delegation (U Aung Min Delegation) as soon as possible;

(3-2) Meeting of the UNFC Peace Delegation and the Union Government Peace Delegation as a preliminary-stage political dialogue;

(3-3) Holding of an Ethnic Nationality Conference with non-UNFC ethnic forces by the UNFC delegation;

(3-4) Convening a National Convention comprising all the nationalities, particularly with the participation of government, outside of the parliament, holding the results obtained from the Ethnic Nationality Conference;

(3-5) Obtaining a “National Accord”, according to the majority decision, from the National Convention and the signing of the it by all the forces;

(3-6) Continuing work according to the provisions of the “National Accord”.

4. Acquiring Humanitarian Assistance for Members of Ethnic Nationalities who have been Victims of Internal Conflict

Battle fields of the civil war of more than 60 years are in the regions of the ethnic nationalities. Due to the punishing conditions of war and due to oppression, lawlessness and killings by troops of successive governments, we the ethnic minorities including the Chin, Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Shan, Mon, Rakine, Pa-oh, Palaung, Wa and Lahu peoples have to suffer bitterly all the miseries of life. The UNFC would like to lead in the rescue and rehabilitation of the people, who have to hide in the jungles or cross borders for refuge, who have to face the problems of lack of security, food, health and education, daily. As the various member organizations of the UNFC have their own systematically organized human rights, rescue and rehabilitation, education and health bodies, the UNFC is in a position to start the work once the international aid is delivered.

It is our proposal that during the period of establishing peace, we, the UNFC, are to give priority to the performance of work of protection, rescue and rehabilitation of the people, since the so-called successive central governments, including the present union government, have ignored for long the welfare of the peoples in the regions under the control of the UNFC member organizations.

Central Executive Committee
United Nationalities Federal Council
Central Headquarters

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