

**The State Law and Order Restoration Council**  
**The Myanmar War Veteran Organization Law**  
**(The State Law and Order Restoration Council Law No. 17/89)**  
The 9th Waxing Day of *Wagaung*, 1351 M.E.  
(10th August, 1989)

The State Law and Order Restoration Council hereby enacts the following Law:-

**Chapter I**  
**Title and Definition**

1. This Law shall be called the Myanmar War Veteran Organization Law
2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:—
  - (a) **War Veteran Organization** means the Myanmar War Veteran Organization at different levels formed under this Law;
  - (b) **War Veteran** means persons who have served as personnel in the army or any armed force formed respectively before Myanmar Independence, during the struggle for Independence and after attaining Independence;
  - (c) **Member** means any person recognized as a member of the War Veteran Organization by the Central Executive Committee;
  - (d) **Central Council** means the Central Council of the War Veteran Organization;
  - (e) **Member of the Central Council** means any member of the Central Council of the War Veteran Organization;
  - (f) **Central Executive Committee** means the Central Executive Committee of the War Veteran Organization;
  - (g) **War Veteran Organization Central Headquarters** means the combination of the Central Council and the Central Executive Committee;
  - (h) **State or Divisional Supervisory Committee** means the respective State or Divisional Supervisory Committee formed by the Central Executive Committee under this Law. In this expression, the State or Divisional Supervisory Sub-Committees are also included;

- (i) **Township Zone Supervisory Committee** means the respective Township Zone Supervisory Committee formed by the Central Executive Committee under this Law;
- (j) **The War Veteran Organization** means the respective War Veteran Organization formed Township wise under this Law;
- (k) **Township Executive Committee** means the respective Executive Committee of the Township War Veteran Organization;
- (l) **Congress** means the Congress of the War Veteran Organization;
- (m) **Annual Meeting** means the annual meeting of the Central Council and the respective Township War Veteran Organization.

## Chapter II

### Objective and Basic Programme

The War Veteran Organization has been formed with the following Objectives:-

- (a) to participate in works relating to the integrity of the Union, national unity and harmony, sovereignty and equal development of the national races in (he social and economic fields;
- (b) to participate with a sense of responsibility as an auxiliary force in works concerning national defence and security;
- (c) to give reciprocal assistance to each other in a spirit of unity among members of the War Veteran Organization;
- (d) to participate unitedly in constructive works of the State.

4. The basic programmes of the War Veteran Organization are as follows:—

- (a) to implement the objectives contained in section 3 sub-section (a):
- (b) to communicate with the Ministries concerned and carry out works relating to national defence and security, constructive works of the State and matters concerning the members of the War Veteran Organization;
- (c) to assist in welfare and social matters of the War Veteran Organization;
- (d) to strive for friendship, mutual assistance and unity among members of the War Veteran Organization;
- (e) to implement the economic enterprises of the War Veteran Organization;

- (f) to strive for the preservation and dissemination of the good traditions of the War Veterans, in order to set a good example to posterity;
- (g) to strive for broadening the outlook of members of the War Veterans Organization and for improving their qualifications.

### **Chapter III**

#### **Membership and Termination of Membership**

5. War Veterans who fulfil the following qualifications may of their own free will apply for membership in the War Veteran Organization in the prescribed manner:—

- (a) being a War Veteran as defined in section 2 sub-section (b);
- (b) being a person who has undertaken to abide by the provisions of this Law and the procedures, terms and conditions and directives issued from time to time by the Central Council and the Central Executive Committee;
- (c) being a person who has undertaken to perform the responsibilities and duties assigned by the War Veteran Organization;
- (d) not being a member of any political party,
- (e) not being or not having been a member of any organization declared to be an unlawful association under any existing law or of any organization in revolt with arms against the State.

6. Members of the household of an army personnel, who are entitled to family pension and who are in conformity with the provisions of section 5 sub-sections (b), (c), (d) and (e) may also apply for membership in the War Veteran Organization as a member.

- 7. (a) Members of the War Veteran Organization which was formed prior to the enactment of this Law, who are in conformity with the provisions of this Law shall continue to be members.
- (b) After applying under section 6. a person who is recognized as a member of the War Veteran Organization, shall continue to be a member of the War Veteran Organization even after the expiry of the right to enjoy family pension of a member of the household of the Defence Services personnel.

8. If any one of the following events occurs, the membership of any member shall be terminated:—

- (a) being permitted to resign;
- (b) on scrutiny found to have infringed the provisions of section 5 sub-section (d) or (e);
- (c) adjudged to be expelled from membership for violation of the code of discipline and ethics prescribed by the Central Executive Committee;
- (d) going abroad for good;
- (e) death.

#### **Chapter IV Formation**

9. There shall be only one Myanmar War Veteran Organization relating- to War Veterans under this Law.

10. The Myanmar War Veteran Organization shall be formed at two levels, namely, the Central Council and the Township War Veteran Organization.

11. (a) In order to from War Veteran Organizations at different levels in accordance with the provisions of this Law, the War Veteran Organization Congress shall be convened regularly once in 5 years. If necessary a special Congress may be convened.
- (b) The following Congress representatives shall attend the Congress:-
- (i) the existing members of the Central Council;
  - (ii) members of the War Veteran Organization who are assigned duties by the Ministry of Defence, in accordance with the prescribed number of Congress representatives;
  - (iii) chairmen of the Township War Veteran Organizations and representatives elected and sent from the respective Township in accordance with the prescribed number of Congress representatives;
- (c) If 75 per cent of the number of representatives having the right to attend the Congress under sub-section (b) attends, the Congress shall be valid.

12. The Patrons of the War Veteran Organization shall be elected by the Congress once in 5 years. The term of office of such Patrons shall be the same as the tenure of the Congress.

13. (a) The Congress shall prescribe the number of members of the Central Council.
- (b) The members of Central Council shall be elected once in 5 years according to the number prescribed by the Congress.
- (c) The Central Council shall convene the annual regular meetings and if necessary, may also convene the special meetings.

14. If 75 per cent of all the members of the Central Council approve the tenure of the Congress:—

- (a) may be reduced, or
- (b) may be extended by a period not exceeding one year.

15. (a) The Central Executive Committee shall be formed once in 5 years as prescribed, with members elected by the Central Council.
- (b) The members of the Central Executive Committee shall elect from among themselves 1 Chairman, 2 Vice-Chairmen, 1 Secretaiy, 2 Joint-Secretaries, 1 Treasurer and 1 Inspector in the Central Executive Committee.
- (c) In the Central Executive Committee; in addition to the members of the Central Council elected under sub-section (a), officers of the Defence Services who have been assigned duties by the Ministry of Defence as prescribed shall also be included ex-officio.

16. The Central Executive Committee shall form Statewise or Divisionwise, State and Division Supervisory Committees and Township Zonewise, Township Zone Supervisory Committees consisting of members of the Central Council. In so forming, if the number of the members of the Central Council are not sufficient, representatives of the Congress may be included. In addition, officers of the Defence Services who have been assigned duties by the Command Headquarters as prescribed shall also be included.

17. In a Township having 30 or more members, a Township War Veteran Organization may be formed.

- (a) The Township Executive Committee shall be formed once in 5 years with members of War Veteran Organization elected as prescribed.
- (b) The formation and number of executive members of the Township Executive Committee shall be prescribed by the Central Executive Committee Township wise.
- (c) The members of the Township Executive Committee shall elect from among themselves a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Joint-Secretary, Treasurer and Inspector in the Township Executive Committee.

19. (a) The Township War Veteran Organization shall convene the annual meeting every year. If necessary, a special meeting may also be convened.
- (b) Every member residing permanently in the Township has the right to attend the annual meeting.
- (c) If 75 per cent of the number of members residing permanently in the Township attend the annual meeting it shall form a quorum. In case, 75 per cent of the number of members do not attend, the meeting shall be adjourned and convened to a date not exceeding one week. Even if 75 per cent of the number of members do not attend at the adjourned meeting, the meeting shall be valid.

20. The term of office of the representatives of the Congress-of the War Veteran Organization, the Central Council, Central Executive Committee and Township Executive Committee or the State or Divisional Supervisory Committee and Township Zone Supervisory Committee shall be the same as the tenure of the Congress.

## **Chapter V**

### **Duties and Powers**

21. The duties and powers of the Congress are as follows:—
- (a) deliberating, placing on record, confirming and deciding on reports.

financial statements and future programmes submitted by the Central Council;

- (b) election to the Central Council in accordance with the procedures;
- (c) confirming and deciding on organization, instigation and education. maintenance of discipline, welfare, economic and financial matters concerning the War Veteran Organization;
- (d) deciding in accordance with this Law in other necessary matters concerning the affairs of the War Veteran.

22. The duties and powers of the Central Council are as follows:—

- (a) being responsible to the Congress;
- (b) forming the Central Executive Committee as prescribed;
- (c) laying down the policy and deciding on organization, inspiration and education, maintenance of discipline, welfare, economic and financial matters of the War Veteran Organization;
- \* (d) deliberating, amending and confirming the reports, financial position and balance sheets submitted by the Central Executive Committee to the Central Council meeting;
- (e) laying down the programmes to be implemented by the War Veteran Organization at different levels;
- (f) vetting and deciding on procedures put up by the Central Executive Committee in order to submit them to the Ministry of Defence;
- (g) hearing, and deciding on appeals.

23. The duties and powers of the Central Executive Committee are as follows:—

- (a) being responsible to the Central Council;
- (b) implementing the programmes and decisions made by the Central Council;
- (c) giving decisions on matters concerning application for membership;
- (d) forming of State or Divisional Supervisory Committees and Township Zone Supervisory Committees and prescribing duties and powers thereof;
- (e) forming of necessary work committees and allocation of duties and powers thereof;

- (f) scrutinizing and guiding the economic enterprises which are being carried out by the Township Executive Committee;
- (g) guiding and supervising the work of the State or Divisional Supervisory Committees, Township Zone Supervisory committees and the Township Executive Committees;
- (h) prescribing the number of members Statewise and Divisionwise to be included in the Central Council;
- (i) prescribing the number of members of the Township Executive Committee and its formation; forming as prescribed the basic bodies of the Township War Veteran Organization as may be necessary and prescribing the duties and powers thereof;
- (j) prescribing offences concerning immoral character for the purpose of this Law;
- (k) drafting the procedures which are necessary under this Law and submitting them to the Ministry of Defence with the approval of the Central Council and promulgating the same on obtaining the approval of the Ministry of Defence;
- (l) being responsible for convening the meetings of the Congress and the Central Council in accordance with the procedures;
- (m) issuing from time to time directives as may be necessary;
- (n) taking disciplinary action in accordance with the procedures;
- (o) communicating with organizations in and outside the country having the same objectives.

24. When any one of the following events occurs, the Central Executive Council may form a provisional Township Executive Committee and assign it to perform the duties and exercise the powers of a Township Executive Committee under this Law:—

- (a) if it becomes impossible for any Township War Veteran Organization to continue to exist in accordance with the provisions of this Law;
- (b) if it becomes impossible to form a Township Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

25. The State or Divisional Supervisory Committees and the Township Zone Supervisory Committees shall be responsible to the Central Executive Committee under the duties and powers prescribed by the Central Executive Committee.



26. The duties and powers of a Township Executive Committee are as follows:—

- (a) being responsible to the Central Executive Committee and the Township War Veteran Organization;
- (b) implementing the works prescribed and decisions made by the Central Council and the Central Executive Committee;
- (c) submitting to the Central Executive Committee applications for membership together with its remarks;
- (d) implementing the economic enterprises to be carried out by the Township War Veteran Organization; obtaining the approval of the Central Executive Committee and carrying out enterprises which are perscribed to obtain the approval of the Central Executive Committee; submitting its activities to the Central Executive Committee;
- (e) forming necessary work committees and allocation of duties and powers thereof;
- (f) carrying out works under the supervision of the State or Divisional Supervisory Committees and the Township Zone Supervisory-Committee;
- (g) being responsible for convening the annual meetings in accordance with the procedures;
- (h) collecting admission fees for membership and monthly subscriptions in the manner prescribed;
- (i) carrying out other duties assigned by the Central Executive Committee.

27. The following shall be carried out at the annual meeting of the Township War Veteran Organization:—

- (a) deliberating, amending and confirming the reports, financial position and balance sheets submitted by the Township Executive Committee;
- (b) electing at the fifth annual meeting the representatives of the Congress of the War Veteran Organization and the members of the Township Executive Committee, in addition to matters under sub-section (a).

28. When any one of the following events occurs, the duty assigned to the Central Council member, Central Executive Committee member, representative of the Congress, Township Executive Committee member, State or Divisional

Supervisory Committee member or the Township Zone Supervisory committee member shall have been withdrawn:—

- (a) being permitted to resign;
- (b) ceasing to be a member;
- (c) withdrawing the duties by the body which has assigned the duties;
- (d) being convicted of an offence declared for this purpose by the Central Committee as being of immoral character;
- (e) death.

## **Chapter VI**

### **Right to carry out economic enterprises**

29. The War Veteran Organization has the right to carry out economic enterprises. In doing so if the War Veteran Organization Central Headquarters or the Township War Veteran Organization carry out on its own independently the assets and liabilities of the War Veteran Organization Central Headquarters and those of the respective Township War Veteran Organization shall be separated.

30. If it becomes necessary to wind up any economic enterprise of any Township War Veteran Organization carried out with its own capital, the Central Executive Committee may order for such winding up. The procedure regarding the winding up shall be prescribed.

## **Chapter VII**

### **Maintenance of Fund and Auditing of Accounts**

31. (a) The War Veteran Organization Central Headquarters and the respective Township War Veteran Organization shall subsist on their own Fund. Provided that grants and loans from the Government and other grants may be obtained.
- (b) The War Veteran Organization Central Headquarters and the respective Township War Veteran Organization have the right to hold and possess both moveable and immoveable properties under their own names.

32. The Funds of the War Veteran Organization Central Headquarters and the respective Township War Veteran Organization shall be administered as prescribed in the procedures.

33. In order to maintain the accounts of the War Veteran Organization at different levels systematically and to audit:—

- (a) if economic enterprises are carried out, the accounts shall be duly audited annually;
- (b) any War Veteran Organization may request the assistance of the Office of the Auditor-General or of the relevant Audit Office subordinate to it, when necessary;
- (c) the Central Executive Committee may request the assistance of the Office of the Auditor-General or of the relevant Audit Office subordinate to it, to audit the accounts of any War Veteran Organization, when necessary.

## **Chapter VIII**

### **Prohibition and Penalty**

34. No one shall form a rival organization, similar to the Myanmar War Veteran Organization.

35. Whoever violates the provision of section 34 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend from a minimum of two years to a maximum of five years and shall also be liable to fine which may extend from a minimum of kyats five thousand to a maximum of kyats ten thousand.

## **Chapter IX**

### **Miscellaneous**

36. The War Veteran Organization shall have the right to operate under its own name and under its own flag and a common seal, with perpetual succession and shall have power to sue and be sued in its corporate name.

37. The code of discipline and ethics to be observed by the members of War Veteran Organization and matters relating to enquiry and taking of action against

any member for non-observance of the code of discipline and ethics shall be as prescribed in the procedures.

38. During the period between the date on which this Law comes into force and prior to the convening of the First Congress, matters to be performed under the provisions of this Law shall be performed by the War Veteran Organization, Central Body, Central Executive Committee and Township Executive Committee formed prior to the promulgation of this Law.

39. All Funds, moveable and immoveable properties economic enterprises, assets and liabilities of the War Veteran Organization at different levels formed prior to the promulgation of this Law shall devolve on the War Veteran Organization at different levels formed under this Law.

40. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Law, the Central Executive Committee:—

- (a) shall issue such procedures as may be necessary, with the approval of the Ministry of Defence;
- (b) may issue such directives as may be necessary.

**Sd./ Saw Maung**  
**General**  
**Chairman**

**The State Law and Order Restoration Council**