

**Ethnic Armed Revolutionary/Resistance Organizations Conference**  
**20-25 January, 2014**  
**Lawkeelar, Karen State**

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**Agreement between**  
**Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Armed Ethnic**  
**Revolutionary/Resistance Organizations**  
**on Nationwide Ceasefire**

**Preface -**

The government of the Union of Myanmar and ethnic armed revolutionary/resistance organizations, which sign this nationwide ceasefire agreement wish:

- To build strong trust between the two sides/parties;
- To take lessons from the bloodshed that has happened during Myanmar's civil war so that it would not occur again;
- To reinstate/evoke the past agreements which are still legal and confirmed;
- To be strongly determined not to solve political problems by military means, but only by political means;
- To establish sustainable peace with justice and dignity in Myanmar, and to hereby pledge a firm commitment to develop, build and protect peace.

Both sides agree to the terms and conditions in the following Ceasefire Agreement, and sign the agreement out of sincerity and a strong will to implement peace, fully and honestly.

**Section 1**  
**Basic principles**

It is agreed that the process of building peace in the country and holding political dialogue shall be based on the following points.

**1 -1 Pledge for peace**

The Agreement is to set up a genuine and peaceful Federal Union of Myanmar, which is based on freedom, equality, and justice. We believe that building the federal union will mean achieving long lasting peace.

**1 -2 Recognizing Promises in the Panglong Agreement**

Burma was built on the Panglong agreement, which was signed with the cooperation of various nationalities, on 12 February 1947 in Panglong, in Southern Shan State. So to recognize the agreement we should respect the identity and dignity of our own nationalities for the sake of the Panglong spirit.

**1-3 Genuine Federal Union**

The Agreement is to build a genuine Federal Union of Myanmar, which is based on democracy, national equality, and full self-determination.

#### **1-4 Recognizing Basic Rights and Responsibilities of the Ethnic nationalities**

To protect the land, water, and air of the union of Myanmar, build national unity, and defend sovereignty, we agree to recognize the identity of the ethnic nationalities, their distinct history, and maintain the ownership of their ancestral lands, which must be put under protection by law.

#### **1-5 Equality**

Nationalities in the union have equal rights, politically and ethnically. There must be no discrimination towards them on ground of national (racial), religious, cultural, literature, and genda differences. All shall have the right to enjoy equality.

#### **1-6 All-inclusiveness**

To solve the conflict, the opinions of all people involved shall be included/sought.

Organizations which should take part in the peace process are:

- A – Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
- B – Ethnic armed revolutionary organizations;
- C – Political parties;
- D – Community based and women organizations.

Note – It is agreed to discuss about allowing the participation of community based and women organizations in the peace process and political dialogue.

#### **1-7 Cooperation**

If there are obstacles in the political dialogue, no one shall blame or accuse the other side. Promise shall be made to negotiate until a solution is got. No one shall issue statements to offend the other side for the benefit of self-interest.

#### **1-8 Responsibility, Accountability, Transparency**

In accordance with principles of responsibility, accountability and transparency, correct news about the peace process should be announced to the people. If necessary, both the two sides should issue news together.

#### **1-9 Union army affairs**

It is agreed to include as an agenda item in the political dialogue the setting up of a federal army, in accordance with the federal system and composed of all nationalities.

#### **1-10 Secular State**

In order not to mix politics and religion, it is agreed to set up a state which is not based on religion, as follows:

- A . Every citizen can believe in any faith they like, according to freedom of wordhip and religion.
- B . Religion is not allowed to be used in political affairs.
- C . The Union Parliament shall not allow any religion as a state religion.

## **Section 2**

### **Aims and objectives**

The following are the aims and objectives of this nationwide ceasefire agreement.

2-1 The ceasefire process shall be performed according to this agreement, and then political dialogue shall be carried out according to the agreed political framework.

2-2 A Joint Supervising Committee (JSC) for ceasefire affairs shall supervise the process of implementing the ceasefire and solving problems.

2-3 To reinstate all the agreements and promises between the union government and the ethnic armed revolutionary organizations.

2-4 All the relevant ethnic armed revolutionary organizations shall sign this nationwide ceasefire agreement together.

2-5 Based on the historical, original states, there shall be discussions about a genuine democratic Federal Union, which is the desire of the nationalities, at every level of meaningful political dialogue.

## **Section 3**

### **Laying down a Road Map Acceptable to Both Sides**

3-1 Signing the nationwide ceasefire;

3-2 Getting an agreement for the "Frame Work for Political Dialogue";

3-3 Holding national political meetings;

3-4 Holding a national conference based on the Panglong spirit and principles, then signing the 'Pyidaungsu Accord';

3-5 Approving the "Pyidaungsu Accord";

3-6 Implementing the "Pyidaungsu Accord"

## **Section 4**

### **Military Affairs**

The following points, which are in the agreement, shall be strictly obeyed by the government army and the ethnic armed revolutionary organizations from the day they sign this Agreement.

#### **4-1 Cessation of Hostilities**

A. Each side shall stop any hostile military activities, confrontation, expansion of forces (acts of war);

B. Cessation of attack by infantry, navy and air, laying mines and other military activities.

C. Other than sending rations, clothing and medicine, and transporting patients, there must be a stop to military activities, including offensives, expanding combat forces, and transporting military equipment and ammunition.

D. Stop torture and committing violence against civilians, using them as human shields.

E. Stop any form of increasing the amount of ammunition and military hardware in the conflict areas.

F. Avoid any propaganda or false information inside or outside the country, which will offend or discredit the other side.

G. Soldiers should not camp in religious buildings, schools, hospitals, clinics, cultural sites, and public areas.

- H. No speech or behavior which is offensive to religion, ethnicity, and human dignity.
- I. No forced labor or extortion of materials from civilians and forced taxation.
- J. According to the progress of the political dialogue, both sides shall clear mines in necessary areas and both sides shall cooperate in clearing mines, step by step.
- K. Disputes arising from personal differences and misunderstandings should not be resolved with the use of weapons or force.
- L. No military military pressure or pressure by other means shall be put on the ethnic armed revolutionary organizations, which have not signed the agreement for whatever reason.

#### **4 -2 Both Forces Shall Avoid Confrontation**

- A . In the areas where government forces and ethnic forces may have possible conflict or direct confrontation, both sides shall agree to discuss moving to other places.
- B. Both sides shall agree to change from offensive position to defensive position in necessary places after discussion between the government forces and ethnic armed revolutionary forces. The forces must be only in designated areas.
- C. Both sides shall agree to draw demarcation lines in the conflict area between the government controlled forces and camps of the ethnic armed revolutionary forces.
- D. Both sides shall agree to have radio communication with the areas close to conflict zones, so as to avoid fighting and to resettle the positions.
- E. Both sides shall agree to avoid confrontation by making buffer zones, demilitarized zones, restricted zones and controlled zones.
- F. To travel to the restricted areas with weapons, it is necessary to report beforehand as follows:

1. Use military roads;
2. Report to the liaison office;
3. Report to the officer in charge;
4. Report to the joint committee for peace affairs;
5. In the situation of transporting emergency patients, use a single white flag or use a light at night to get in touch with each other.

- G . No one shall use arms to solve personal quarrels and misunderstandings.
- H. Commanders from both sides shall contact regularly to discuss moving camps to places which are not yet ready.
- I. Both sides shall agree to accept generally to reduce forces and camps in the conflict area.
- J. Camps and military operations, which can make possible attacks, shall be exposed and discussions shall be held to pull them back to defensive positions.
- K. Both sides shall discuss sending a joint supervising team to conflict area.
- L . Both sides shall designate supply and communication lines.

#### **4- 3 Resettling Forces from Both Sides**

- A. Army camps which seem to give military pressure to the other side shall be moved/relocated.
- B. Army camps stationed on routes used regularly for supply or military administrative activities of the other side shall be moved.
- C. Army camps stationed too close to each other, so that conflict can break out easily, shall be moved.
- E. If there is a reason to move the camp, apart from the above occasions, discussion is needed for both sides.
- F. There shall be discussions to reduce the amount of camps and forces in the conflict area.

- G. Both sides shall agree upon and recognize the supply and communication lines.
- H. The agreement of both sides on resettling camps shall be reported to the respective joint supervising committee in a timely way.

#### **4-4 Restriction on Weapons**

- A. There shall be no supply weapons, ammunition and foodstuff excessively, as this can affect the ceasefire agreement.
- B. The conflict areas shall be recognized as no fly zones.

#### **4-5 Freedom to travel**

- A. The parties, which have signed this agreement, shall agree that civilians are free to travel and there shall be free flow of trade in the conflict area.
- B. The parties, which have signed this agreement, shall agree to allow soldiers on both sides, without weapons, to travel anywhere, except areas restricted for security purposes.
- C. The parties, which have signed this agreement, shall agree that soldiers can travel within the designated areas. The signatories agree that soldiers with weapons have to get official permission from the respective responsible officers of both sides, if they travel outside these areas.

#### **4-6 Matters concerning Liaison Offices**

- A. Both parties agree to discuss the opening of liaison offices and the work of these offices for the sake of facilitating the peace process between the Government, people, and ethnic armed revolutionary organizations.
- B. Both parties agree that the government has to take responsibility for the security of the staff serving in the ethnic armed revolutionary offices.

### **Section 5**

#### **Code of Conduct of Forces with respect to Ceasefire**

The parties, which have signed this agreement, shall agree that forces of both sides shall respect the military code of conduct and principles of the ceasefire. (Military code of conduct is attached - 1 , page 20)

### **Section 6**

#### **Nationwide Ceasefire Joint Monitoring**

##### **6-1 Nationwide Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee (NCJMC)**

- A. The parties, which have signed this agreement, shall agree to organize a “Nationwide Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee” with the approval of the signatories.
- B. The aims of this nationwide ceasefire joint monitoring committee are: to solve any problems arising while maintaining military affairs and implementing the code of conduct; to ensure that placing of forces does not lead to confrontation; and to ensure that the ceasefire is maintained.
- C. The “Nationwide ceasefire joint monitoring committee” is composed of the government, ethnic armed revolutionary organizations, other persons acceptable by both sides, community based organizations, political parties and representatives from other countries. (The number of members will be decided at a future meeting.)

#### **D. Duties of “Nationwide Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee”**

1. Implementing the ceasefire agreement and laying down rules and regulations of the monitoring work, setting standards, drawing up instructions and aims.
2. Supervising and supporting the implementation of state and division level “ceasefire joint monitoring committees”.
3. Supervising the nationwide ceasefire joint monitoring work and managing and controlling the whole structure.
4. Solving important national policy issues concerning the nationwide ceasefire agreement.
5. Giving advice and solving problems regarding military affairs, and policies for the military code of conduct.
6. Evaluation of the actual situation must be made once every two months or six months.
7. The condition of the nationwide ceasefire and practical developments concerning Section (4) and Section (5) shall be reported regularly to the public, all respective organizations and the international community.
8. Performing work agreed upon by all participating groups.

Note: To support the Nationwide Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee to carry out their duties effectively, the structure of the committee (NCJMC) is attached. There shall be supporting committees and special committees organized at each level, which shall support the NCJMC.

E . Before the date of signing the agreement, the joint supervising agreements made between the Union Peace-making Work Committee and ethnic armed revolutionary organizations singly, shall still be accepted. But those agreements have to be adapted to the nationwide ceasefire structure. The NCJMC has the responsibility to liaise between those parties for this process.

F . When implementing this process, the NCJMC shall not be biased and shall have transparency. NCJMC shall follow the guidance of international humanitarian law, human rights law and the principle of protection of civilians.

G . According to the nationwide ceasefire agreement, the following steps shall be implemented immediately to establish a monitoring mechanism.

1. Both sides shall agree to decide on the size of the local monitoring team and the main priorities according to the needs of the situation on the ground.

Organizing the NCJMC and starting a monitoring mechanism are urgently needed. The Agreement’s Section (4) – Military Affairs, and Section (5) – Code of Conduct, shall be used as a guideline or printed as a handbook for every level of monitoring. Copies shall be submitted to both sides to help in decision-making.

2. The NCJMC shall hold a monthly meeting or whenever necessary. If it is favorable, the progress of the monitoring shall be reported to the public, and mass meetings shall be held to get support from the people. The NCJMC shall issue and publish a statement after every mass meeting.

3. The regulations and work process of the verification team must be drawn up by the verification team itself and submitted to NCJMC to get approval.

4. The NCJMC office and committee offices under the NCJMC shall be opened in each area with the agreement of the member organizations.

5. The organizations shall be committed to providing necessary funding support and human resources for the setting up of the NCJMC office.

6. Both parties shall agree to regularly monitor the capacity of the whole monitoring mechanism, and expand it or amend its powers or structure as necessary. Because of this, the monitoring shall be adaptable to the ground situation and flow smoothly according to the peace process. Expansion or amending the monitoring mechanism shall be made only with the agreement of both sides.

### **6- 2 State Level Joint Monitoring Committees (SLJMC)**

A. State Level Joint Monitoring Committees (SLJMC) shall be organized for the purpose of supporting the Nationwide Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee (NCJMC) . The SLJMC's main responsibility shall be managing and controlling ceasefire activities at the state level.

#### **B. Work and Duties of State Level Joint Monitoring Committee**

1 . Accepting complaint letters from the local people and organizations about violation of the Agreement Section (4) – military affairs and Section (5) - code of conduct of forces, during ceasefire.

2. Effectively solve problems impacting implementation of the above matters.

3. Report regularly to NCJMC about the implementation of the above matters.

4. Negotiate between the Government, forces of ethnic armed revolutionary organizations and local people for the implementation of monitoring.

5 . Verification of monitoring reports from different local levels under SLJMC and submit them to the verification body to be approved.

6. Implementing other assignments given by the joint monitoring committee.

#### **C . Structure of the State Level Joint Monitoring Committee**

It shall be composed of the government (including army), representatives of ethnic armed revolutionary organizations, persons acceptable to both sides (social organizations inside Burma, local people, individuals from international community). The number of members shall be decided by both sides (in a future meeting). But if there is more than one ethnic armed revolutionary organization in a single state, an equal number of representatives from those organizations shall be sent.

### **6-3 Township Level Joint Monitoring Committees (TLJMC)**

A. The work and duties of the Township Level Joint Monitoring Committee

1. Monitoring according to Section (4) - military affairs, and Section (5) – military code of conduct in the agreement.

2. Accepting complaint letters from local people and organizations.

3. Effectively solve problems impacting implementation of the above matters.

4. Report regularly to SLJMC about the implementation of the above matters.

5. Verification of any complaints/reports of violation of the Agreement and submit them to verification body through SLJMC to get approved.

6 .Negotiate between the Government, forces of ethnic armed revolutionary organizations and local people for implementation of monitoring.

7 . Implementing the other assignments given by the joint monitoring committee.

**B . The structure of the township**

The township joint monitoring committee shall be composed of the government, representatives of ethnic armed revolutionary organizations, persons acceptable to both sides (social organizations inside Burma, local people, individuals from international community). The number of members shall be decided by both sides (in a future meeting).

**6-4 Local Monitoring Teams (LMT)**

**A. Work and duties of local monitoring teams (LMT)**

1. Monitoring according to Section (4) - military affairs, and Section (5) - code of conduct of soldiers, in the agreement.
2. Findings shall be reported to the township joint monitoring committee and if necessary reported to the state level joint monitoring committee regularly, with news updates.
3. Support TLJMC in verifying news.
4. Negotiate between the Government, forces of ethnic armed revolutionary organizations and local people for implementation of monitoring.
5. Implementing the other assignments given by the state level joint monitoring committee.

**B .The structure of local monitoring team**

The local monitoring team shall composed of local social organizations, religious leaders and individuals acceptable to both sides. (The number of members will be decided (in a future meeting.)

**6-5 Verification Body**

Every state or division, which has a state level joint monitoring committee, must organize a verification body. This body is responsible for checking whether the agreement has been violated or not.

**A . Work and Duties of Verification Body**

1. Verification of complaints of violating Section (4) - military affairs, and section (5) - code of conduct of soldiers, in the agreement.
2. Inviting and cooperating as necessary with suitable organizations or individuals to investigate details of violations.
- 3 . Sending an approved report to the respective state joint monitoring committees.

**B . Structure of Verification Body**

The verification body is composed of representatives of both the government and the ethnic armed revolutionary organization(s) and individuals who are acceptable to both sides. (The number of representatives from each side will be decided in a future meeting.)

**6 -6 Right to collect Information**

Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committees, local monitoring teams and the verification bodies can ask for information from the organizations which signed the agreement when carrying out their duties.



## **6.7 Protection of civilians**

The signatories to the agreement must obey and implement the following points for civilians in ceasefire areas

1. Negotiate and cooperate so that civilians in the conflict area can enjoy full security, rule of law and basic human rights.
2. Negotiate and cooperate to support people with food and clothing, health, education and local development.
3. No recruitment of civilians into the armed forces against their will.
4. No commission against civilians of violence, unlawful arrest, kidnap, torture, inhuman acts, imprisonment, murder and acts causing disappearance.
5. No extortion of money and take property from the people.
6. Do not block people's freedom to travel in accordance with the law.
7. Do not arrest without reason, and prosecute and punish people on false grounds.
8. Do not seize land by force, and transfer land against the will of the owner.
9. Do not destroy, steal, rob and take away public property without permission.
10. Do not block and disturb the right to education, destroy educational materials and schools and buildings, and disturb education officers and students.
11. Both sides must not block individuals' right to health, and must allow transportation of medical equipment and medicine for the public.  
Moreover, 11. – Do not prohibit people from transporting their property and harvesting, storing food supplies and selling or to trading.
12. Do not set up military camps on premises of schools, hospitals, religious buildings and compounds.
13. Do not destroy or insult or desecrate directly or indirectly any people's religion, culture and traditional customs.
14. Humanitarian aid should be given to the displaced persons, who have fled because of lack of security in the home area. There should be no blockage or disturbance of aid from other organizations. Aid delivery should be coordinated with local organizations.
15. Whether or not internally displaced persons resettle back to their homes, or move to new places, or continue living in their current location, must be according to their own desire.
16. There must be no misconduct towards women; no sexual assault; no violence; and no sexual slavery.
17. There must be no killing or disfiguring of children; no recruitment of child soldiers; no violence against children; no sexual abuse of children; and no arrest and abduction of children.
18. There must be no forced labour or use of people as slaves.
19. To respect the Geneva Convention (iv) related to the protection of civilian persons in time of war.

## **Section 7**

### **Building Confidence and Abolishing Unlawful Association Acts**

#### **7-1 Work Related to Confidence Building**

A. Agreeing to have sincerity to build confidence between the organizations, which have signed the agreement, and between the signatories and civilians.

B. The government shall agree not to take any action, under existing law, against individuals or organizations for acting according to the ceasefire agreement.

C. The armed ethnic resistance organizations shall agree not to take action against any individual or organization associated with the government, which acts according to the ceasefire agreement.

D. The Union President shall agree to declare an end to military operations in the whole country as soon as the agreement has been signed.

E. The ethnic armed organizations shall agree to declare an end to military operations in their area as soon as the agreement has been signed.

F. The government shall agree to release of all members of the ethnic armed organizations in prisons, as soon as the agreement has been signed.

### **7 -2 Abolishing Unlawful Association Acts and Related Provisions**

A. The Government shall agree not to take action against any individual or organization involved in the activities of this ceasefire agreement, except when that individual or organization violates the existing law.

B. The government shall agree to declare the abolishing of unlawful association acts against the armed ethnic resistance organizations, which have signed the agreement. It shall also agree not to take action according to the illegal organization law or political registration law against any individual or organization, who are connected to the organizations which have signed the agreement.

C. After signing the agreement, the government shall agree to drop charges under unlawful association act brought against any members of the armed ethnic resistance organizations and to release any members, who have been imprisoned.

### **7 - 3 Amnesty**

After signing this nationwide ceasefire agreement, both sides shall agree that there will be no prosecution for past actions of persons taking part in the over 60-year long civil war, including those who are still active at present, and those who have changed sides.

## **Section 8 Issues Related to Political Dialogue**

The government and the armed ethnic resistance organizations shall agree to implement the following points for the sake of the political dialogue, which will take place immediately after the signing of the agreement. The persons, who sign this agreement, want to solve the political problems politically and peacefully to end the over 60-year long civil war.

### **8 -1 Joint Leading Committee for Union-Level Peace Negotiation**

A. The persons/parties, which have signed this agreement must form a “Joint Leading Committee for Union-Level Peace Negotiation” immediately after signing the agreement, to guide the different levels of political talks.

B. The “Joint Leading Committee for Union-Level Peace Negotiation” must be composed of the Government’s Peace-making Central Committee members, the chairman or secretary general of each of the armed ethnic resistance organization and suitable top leaders from the political parties.

C , The aims of the ‘Joint Leading Committee for Union-Level Peace Negotiation” are to get successful agreement on the nationwide ceasefire/peace agreement and to guide the different levels of political dialogue successfully. Besides, the committee shall control the political dialogue so that it does not halt or turn back, or expire.

D . The Joint Leading Committee for Union-Level Peace Negotiation must perform the following tasks:

1. Forming Joint Working Committee for Union-Level Peace negotiation;
2. Forming Joint Advisory Committee for Union-Level Peace negotiation;
3. Take presidium post and guide the conferences, including the Panglong-like conference, which shall precede the national level political dialogues.

### **8 -2 Laying Down Framework for Political Dialogue**

A. Within 60 days after signing the agreement, the signatories shall approve the framework for political dialogue, acceptable to both the government and the armed ethnic resistance organizations, drawn up by the Joint Leading Committee for Union-Level Peace Negotiation.

B .The signatories of the agreement shall agree to start holding a big political conference within 90 days after signing the agreement.

C . The signatories of the agreement shall agree to hold a political meeting of suitable persons, outside parliament.

D . The ethnic armed resistance organizations, which do not sign the agreement, for their own reasons, shall be allowed also to attend the meeting.

### **8 – 3 Issues to be Discussed at Different Levels of Political Dialogue**

A . The basic political problems of the union

B . Security issues

C . Issues relating to rebuilding the economy and development

D . Issues relating to reconstruction and local development

E . Land ownership and environmental issues

F . Humanitarian aid and resettlement issues

G . Drug eradication issues

H . National reconciliation issue

#### **8-4 Getting Agreement**

Both parties shall agree to have consensus from all the organizations involved in the conflict, for the sake of sustainable peace, in the political dialogue.

#### **8- 5 Union Conference**

Ethnic nationality representatives, government army representatives, and democracy and opposition representatives, in equal numbers, shall attend the union conference. This conference shall have the power to make resolutions on the basic constitution and reconstruction of the country. The Union resolutions shall be approved by this conference and the final resolutions shall become a framework for the constitution.

### **Section 9 Programs for Transitional Period**

#### **9 -1 Recognition of the managing rights of the ethnic armed revolutionary organizations**

According to this agreement, it shall be recognized that the ethnic armed revolutionary organizations, which have signed the agreement, are the organizations responsible for the development, security and stability of the people in their respective states, regions, and local areas. Therefore, within the period between signing the ceasefire agreement and signing the Union agreement, it is agreed the armed ethnic resistance organizations shall perform the following actions:

A. For the sake of security, peace and stability, they shall govern and have legal power over the people in their respective area, according to their own organization's program, or through consultation with the government.

B. They shall carry out business and management activities in their respective areas, according to their own program, or through consultation with the government.

C. Local people's land ownership and related disputes, shall be prevented and managed and handled according to their own organization's program or through consultation with the government. (This shall recognize the management of land by the armed ethnic resistance organizations, before the agreement has been signed.)

D. Preserving the natural resources above and below the ground in the respective areas, managing the resources (not big scale projects) and preserving the environment shall be carried out according to their own organization's program or through consultation with the government.

E. Depending on the needs of the local people, education, health and development projects shall be carried out according to their own organization's program or through consultation with the government.

F. They may accept aid from inside and outside of the country for local development and capacity building.

G. Their own ethnic literature and culture preservation programs can be carried out according to each organization's program or through consultation with the government.

H. Each organization can educate about and eradicate drug growing, production, trading and addiction in their respective areas, either by themselves, or through consultation with the government.

I. They shall have the right to take part in the decision-making process of mega projects in the respective areas and share the benefits.

J. They shall take part in the implementation and decision-making for local development projects, which have wide impacts.

## **9-2 Humanitarian Aid**

The government and the ethnic armed organizations shall agree to the following points related to humanitarian aid:

A. They shall cooperate in providing humanitarian aid to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and people suffering in the conflict zones.

B . They shall cooperate in screening and resettling internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees.

## **9- 3 Human Rights Promotion and Protection**

The government and the armed ethnic resistance organizations shall agree to the following points related to promotion and protection of human rights:

A. They shall encourage promotion and protection of human rights.

B. They shall protect women, children and the disabled according to international agreements.

C . They shall set up a system to send reports of violation of human rights.

## **Section 10 General**

### **10- 1 Approving**

The union government shall submit the agreement to the union parliament to be approved by it within 30 days. The president shall convene the parliament if it is not having a meeting at the time.

### **10 - 2 Coming into Force**

The agreement shall come into force, when it has been signed by the accepted state stakeholders, the armed ethnic resistance leaders and witnesses, even if the parliament has not yet approved it.

### **10 -3 Relation to Current Constitution**

The signing of the agreement shall have no relation to the 2008 Constitution.

### **10 - 4 Duration**

A year after the date that the agreement comes into effect, an evaluation must be made as to whether it shall continue to be in force or be amended or terminated.

### **10 - 4 Reasons for Termination**

This nationwide ceasefire agreement may be terminated for one of the following reasons –

A. Forces from either side do not immediately stop military operations but continue hostilities after this agreement has come into force.

B. The implementation of the agreement is not in accordance with the time schedule specified in this agreement. (For example – The political dialogue framework is not drawn up within 60 days after the agreement comes into force. Or even if the framework has been finished, but the political dialogue does not happen within 90 days.)

C. Provisions in the agreement are deliberately violated directly or indirectly, or either side attempt to violate them.

D. Any organization, which has signed the agreement, or any of their leaders, are deliberately or unlawfully arrested, put in prison, attacked or killed.

### **10 - 5 Official Copy of the Agreement**

This agreement shall be in Burmese and translated into English. Both Burmese and English versions shall be official. But if the meaning of the words are in dispute, the Burmese version shall be final.

## **Section 11**

### **Signing**

The government and the armed ethnic resistance organizations shall officially sign this agreement in the presence of dignitaries as witnesses, and promise to hold political dialogue immediately, in order to build long lasting peace.

#### **11 – 1 The Government**

- A . The President
- B . Two Vice–Presidents
- C . National Parliament Speaker
- D . The Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces
- E . The Attorney General
- F . Head of Judges (Supreme Court Chief Justice)
- G . Vice Chairmen of the Union Peace-Making Committee

#### **11 – 2 From the Armed Ethnic Resistance Organizations:**

- A . Chairmen or Secretary Generals
- B . Commanders-in-Chief of the Armed Forces

#### **11 – 3 Witnesses**

- A . Secretary-General of United Nations
- B . Influential international leaders in office
- C . Suitable political leaders
- D . Respectable dignitaries

#### **11 – 4 Responsibilities of the Signatories**

The responsibilities of the signatories of the agreement are as follows:

- A . Participate in the ceasefire monitoring;
- B . Sending in findings and opinions;
- C . Be witness to solving problems.

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