



**Karen National Union
Supreme Headquarters
Kawthoolei
www.knuhq.org**

Statement Welcoming President U Htin Kyaw and New Government

1. The Karen National Union (KNU) warmly welcomes the new government and President U Htin Kyaw, who took over the duty of State presidency, in the power transfer, on March 30, 2016. The KNU would like to commend the former President U Thein Sein for the execution of peaceful and smooth transfer of the State power.
2. Since the National League for Democracy (NLD) has been elected unanimously by the entire people of the ethnic nationalities, establishment of the new government led by President U Htin Kyaw is a crucial step in the democratic transition of Burma/Myanmar.
3. The KNU welcomes and supports the policies and principles declared in the Union Parliament being – national reconciliation, civil peace, emergence of a constitution leading to a democratic federal union and the implementation of raising standard of the social life of the people – since they are in consonant with aspirations of the ethnic armed resistance organizations and the entire people, including the KNU.
4. The KNU issues this statement and welcomes with the faith and hope that during the term of the new democratic government led by President U Htin Kyaw, the peace building started during the term of the previous government would continue to be realized, and after ending the civil war that has been going on for years, a democratic federal union with full guarantee for democratic, national equality and self-determination rights would arise.

Executive Committee
Karen National Union
Supreme Headquarters

April 2, 2016