



**Karen National Union  
Supreme Headquarters  
Kawthoolei  
[www.knuhq.org](http://www.knuhq.org)**

**Statement of 2<sup>nd</sup> Central Standing Committee Meeting following 16<sup>th</sup> Karen National Union  
Congress  
(Laywah)**

**August 24, 2018**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Central Standing Committee meeting, following the 16<sup>th</sup> Karen National Union (KNU) Congress, was held successfully from August 6 to 24. The meeting was attended by 46 out of 55 Central Standing Committee (CSC) members and 6 specially invited persons.

At the CSC meeting, the political report submitted by the KNU Central Executive Committee (CEC), activity reports submitted by the districts, the councils and the departments were studied, discussed and adopted.

After the study and discussion of issues, associated with the implementation of current internal peace process, which are the UPDJC and JMC's work programs pertaining to the implementation of nationwide ceasefire, and the weaknesses, advantages and challenges facing the realization of projects relating to the transitional period, the CSC meeting agreed to the possible implementation of more correct and better programs, in consultation with the government officials concerned.

Agreement was reached to organize a workshop for the review of the peace process, in relation to the implementation of NCA, and for the emergence of correct and sound peace processes founded on current political situation of Myanmar after the Union Peace Conference - the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Pinlong Third Meeting, and the consequences and challenges that could arise from the implementation of NCA at different levels, and for the garnering of views and stands within the KNU, as well as within the Karen nationals.

To secure results of political meetings through the Union Peace Conference – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Pinlong Meetings for the establishment of a Federal Union and to strengthen the ceasefire, while political meetings are being held, the procedures of joint monitoring, in relation to the JMC, are to be based firmly on the NCA and the performance and implementation will be made by thorough discussions between the dialogue partners for the resolution of differences with full mutual recognition, respect, appreciation, sympathy and understanding.

The principal cause of international pressure, relating to the incidents in Rakhine State, is due to the bad consequences with sources in the chauvinism and dictatorship, through which we have been going nearly 70 years, and it is our conclusion that there is need for us to realize national reconciliation through the peace process and show evidence to World by establishing democratic and federal systems and founding a government with transparency, accountability and rule of law.

While there is still no emanation of transparent and valid political agreement from the peace process, the international aid and assistance have been reduced for refugees on the Thai-Myanmar border and the IDPs. Effort will be made for the refugees and IDPs to continue receiving international humanitarian aid and assistance and for them not to be repatriated, until there is international guarantee for them to return to safety and with dignity.

Agreement was also reached for us to contact and liaise with the ethnic armed resistance organizations, which cannot still sign the NCA for various reasons, and make the effort for achieving genuine internal peace.

In closing we, the CSC meeting, would like to declare that in continuing the implementation of future programs and decisions, adopted by the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, we will cooperate, together with the Karen people, with the other ethnic armed resistance organizations, political parties, political forces and civil society organizations.

Central Standing Committee  
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