



The Top Leaders Summit of the Ethnic Armed Organizations Press Statement

September 30, 2015

Chiang Mai, Thailand

1. The Top Leaders meeting of the Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from September 28 to 30, 2015. There were 71 representatives from 19 EAOs and 6 observers from the Women's League of Burma (WLB) and Peace-talk Creation Group (PCG) who attended the meeting.
2. The top leaders discussed the results of the meeting between EAOs senior leaders and President Thein Sein that was held on September 9, 2015 regarding the conclusion of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). Additionally, EAOs presented the current military and political situations in ethnic areas in relation to the signing of the NCA and emphasized the practical implementation methods of each EAOs member on the NCA.
3. EAOs delegations also raised concerns about the government's ongoing military offensives and the military tension faced by citizens and EAOs in Kachin State and Shan State. The EAOs were particularly concerned that such offensives and tension have become the main obstacle for the achievement of a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement and the implementation of political dialogues.
4. While the EAOs share the common goal of establishing a democratic federal union, we acknowledge that there are different approaches among us toward achieving our goal. The top leaders openly discussed ways of cooperation in accordance with current situation among EAOs despite the differences.
5. Due to the developing political and military situations, not all EAOs are able to sign the NCA as it is. However, the EAOs were able to establish mutual understanding on further cooperation between the EAOs on matters concerning the drafting of a political

framework and military code of conduct, the formation of a joint monitoring committee, and the implementation of political dialogues.

6. All the EAOs at this summit pledged to continue the fight, utilizing different approaches by each organization, toward the realization of a democratic federal union.

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