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United Nationalities Federal Council (Union of Burma)

UNFC Statement on Current Situations

- 1. The UNFC puts on record and honors the Laiza Conference of the Ethnic Armed Resistance Organizations, sponsored by the KIO, a member organization of the UNFC, as it was a hundred percent success for unity of the ethnic nationalities. The KIO, together with the Peace-talk Creation Group (PCG) and all the Kachin people, who have given various kinds of help, are also put on record and in place of special honor.
- 2. We all know that though the successive regimes have proclaimed "Non-disintegration of National Solidarity" as one of their "Three Supreme Responsibilities", none of them, from the very beginning, has undertaken, in practice, the establishment of "National Solidarity". The UNFC puts on record its gratitude to President U Thein Sein government's UPWC-MPC committees for permission to hold the conference, giving assistance in travel and giving help in many ways, as they were, in reality, performance for unity of the ethnic nationalities, or national solidarity.
- 3. Chief negotiator of the government, Minister U Aung Min, used to wail often about having to hold consultations with 17 ethnic armed resistance organizations, individually, but now the UNFC would like to point out that the meeting with all the 17 organizations, in unanimity at the same time, opens the door to opportunity for successful conclusion of the entire peace process, including different stages of concluding ceasefire agreements.
- 4. The successful formation and mandating the Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team (NCCT), is an outstanding achievement of the Laiza Summit Conference. The NCCT will have to negotiate until it gains a condition of trust for the armed ethnic resistance organization leaders, who have made a commitment and pledge to the "Laiza Agreement", to sign the "Nationwide Ceasefire Accord" with the government.
- 5. After Laiza Conference, the meeting between the UPWC, led by Minister U Aung Min, and the armed ethnic resistance organization leaders returning from Laiza, in Myitkyina, the capital of Kachin State, began with the first phase of preliminary exchange of greetings and words of thanks. As the second phase, the NCCT leaders handed over a copy of the "Laiza Agreement" to the UPWC and explained about the contents of the agreement. There was a question and answer period, when the UPWC members asked for clarification on some points. However, the "Laiza Agreement" is only an agreement concluded among the armed ethnic resistance organizations and it is not meant to be an agreement between the two parties. The NCCT is in the process of acquiring advice from the various

organizations and composing a draft agreement for the two parties, and the NCCT will soon be able to submit it as a proposal. The UNFC will participate in the process and try its level best.

- 6. However, in the second phase of the meeting in Myitkyina, the UPWC submitted, as a proposal, a draft titled as "Two-Party Agreement". The NCCT, on its part, responded by saying that it had received the proposed draft in good order, it was still too early to give an opinion, and the draft would have to be submitted to leaders, with decisional powers, of the various organizations concerned, and the meeting came to an end. The UNFC, on its part, would like to say that it is still studying the draft proposal submitted by the UPWC.
- 7. In conclusion, the UNFC would like to state that it views as positive developments, the Laiza Conference, which has produced the "Laiza Agreement", and the Myitkyina Meeting, which has strengthened trust to a certain extent.

Central Executive Committee
The United Nationalities Federal Council

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Contact points for Media

(1) Padoh David Tharckabaw (Vice-Chairman-2) Phone: + (66) 904 567 095 (2) Col. Hkun Okker (Joint General Secretary-2) Phone: + (66) 819 502 158