

Karen National Union Supreme Headquarters Kawthoolei <u>www.knuhq.org</u>

Date: 15 October 2020

Statement on the 5th Anniversary of Signing Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement

Today marks the 5th Anniversary of the signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement. The Karen National Union signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement on the 15 October 2015 with the aim of achieving equality and self-determination, based on Kaw Kho (Presidential fore-founder) Saw Ba Oo Gyi's 4 principles.

Although the political negotiation process has been delayed and faced many challenges, the KNU has adopted and agreed the three steps political negotiation and three phases implementation to build a federal union with strong dedication and inspiration. The KNU will proactively participate in the amendments of the framework for political dialogue, in order to achieve sustainable peace in accordance with such steps and processes.

Therefore, we urge the Karen people,

- 1. In order for the Karens, those who will be able to participate in the steps based national equality and self-determination rights, we urge you to bravely vote for the Karens and Karen Political Parties in the forthcoming elections under the jurisdiction of the 2008 Constitution.
- 2. We urge the Karen people to be united in accordance with the guidelines and policies of the KNU's 16th Congress and the directives of Kaw Kho Saw Ba Oo Gyi principals for the political dialogue.

We, the KNU, urge all stakeholders on this 5th Anniversary of the signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, to aim to achieve sustainable peace through an all-inclusiveness, based on a non-exclusive, political dialogue and ceasefire strengthening.

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