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Office of Headquarters

A brief account of the establishment of the Interim Executive Council of Karenni State (IEC)

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To: The people aspiring for a federal democratic union and our alliance organizations

Since the time immemorial till the end of the Colonial era when Burma gained its independence from the British rule, Karenni State has always been an independent sovereign state. But following Burma's independence, Karenni State was annexed to Burma, dragged into the endless civil war and its name changed to 'Kayah State' in 1952. The then caretaker administration led by General Ne Win imposed a 'Renunciation Treaty' on Karenni leaders, forcing them to sign away their executive power on 29 April, 1959. Since then, the leaders and the people of Karenni State have been incessantly fighting for their national equality and self-determination. In 2012 and subsequent years, many dialogues were resumed to reach ceasefire agreement. With no regard to the principles of equality and recognition these dialogues proved futile, and the discussions constrained by the unfair rules led nowhere near to reaching ceasefire agreement. Under the 2008 Constitution prepared by the military and enacted in the immediate aftermath of Cyclone Nargis, the states were given minimal authority with their rights to equality and self-determination completely denied. In the 2012 General Elections, local political parties of Karenni State won many seats in the parliament with strong support from their voters. But, the attempted coup by the military junta once again engendered the loss of their legitimate authority.

After the military junta led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing launched an attempted coup on 1 Feb 2021, people from all around the country including those living in Karenni State took to the street and joined the peaceful protests, calling for the abolishment of the 2008 Constitution, formation of a federal union and the return of power to its original owner, the people of the country. Just because of participation in peaceful protests, the people of our Karenni State were brutally beaten, arrested, jailed or even killed by firearms. Sprung out of this crisis, the current people's revolution in Karenni State on the other hand has brought about unprecedented unity among its people, enabled the formulation of very clear and specific political objectives and opened up a good opportunity to pursue our political and military endeavors.

For so many years in the past, we have missed a lot of opportunities in our political and military ventures because of the disagreement and disunity among different races and groups located in Karenni State. In this revolution period, however, we have managed to encourage the celebration of racial, religious and ideological diversity in order to build unity among different revolutionary forces and trust among different races in accordance with the expectations of our people. Our ultimate goal is to make Karenni State a stable, peaceful and developed federal unit and to ensure that the administrative power over Karenni State is in the hand of its people.

Thus, the Karenni State State Consultative Council (KSCC) was established on 9 April, 2021 with the political objectives of abolishing the 2008 Constitution, uprooting all forms of dictatorship, adopting state constitutions and building a federal democratic union. Under the political leadership the KSCC and in line with its policy guidelines, the Interim Executive Council of Karenni State (IEC) was formed on 12 June 2023.

The objective of IEC:

- (1) To carry out executive functions of the interim state government through collective leadership
- (2) To ensure check and balance between legislative, executive and judicial branches, and to bring about peace and stability within Karenni State
- (3) To enhance closer and practical cooperation with different revolutionary forces located in Karenni State

The Interim Executive Council of Karenni State (IEC) aims to protect the lives and property of its people, to deliver public services and to fulfill the fundamental needs of the people including education, health, food and other basic necessities. The IEC will develop short-term and long-term plans to mobilize revolutionary forces and provide adequate protection for the people. Public services will also be implemented in a more coordinated approach. Current police department and retention jails will also be upgraded and managed more effectively so as to maintain and promote the rule of law. Moreover, the IEC will engage with the revolutionary forces from within the country as well as abroad, and work in close collaboration with the CRPH, NUCC and NUG that are striving for the establishment of a federal democratic union.

The IEC will be comprised of 6 council members at the beginning and it is expected that at least 12 state affairs departments will be formed. In the revolutionary period, the IEC and the State Affair Committee will effectively managed the finances of the State for the welfare of the civil servants and the people in accordance with the policy guidelines of the KSCC. So, we would like to invite those righteous civil servants who have been participating in CDM and the experts from various fields to come to work together with the IEC. We would also like to call for support from the people of the country.

In collaboration with the revolutionary forces located all across the union, the IEC will work its hardest towards the success of political reform in Karenni State as well as in the whole union. After the new Karenni State Government with self-determination is formed, the IEC will then be dissolved within a pre-specified time period. To bring out positive change amidst the deteriorating situation in the country, the Karenni State will work together with all other federal units or all the revolutionary forces located across

the country that are striving for the establishment of a federal democratic union. We would like to reaffirm that the Interim Executive Council of the Karenni State (IEC) will uphold its core values of national equality, justice and self-determination, and be fully committed to building a new free and developed federal union.

Karenni State Interim Executive Council (IEC)