



**Karen National Union
Supreme Headquarters
Kawthoolei
www.knuhq.org**

8 January 2021

Karen National Union Statement on the Ceasefire Strengthening Process

1. The Karen National Union stands firmly on its position to solve political problems through political means. Since signing the bilateral agreement on the 12th January 2012 and the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) on the 15th October 2015, the KNU has been tirelessly working to implement these Agreements.
2. However, the agreed proposal 'Fearless Civilian Living', submitted by the KNU Delegation Team at the second Union Level Bilateral Meeting between the KNU and the Union Level Peace Negotiation Team, in Hpa-an on the 3-4 September 2012, was disregarded. The consequences have resulted in disappointment and distrust of the local communities living in the ceasefire areas due to their insecurity, which has simultaneously caused local demonstrations and tensions between the KNLA and the Burma Army.
3. The KNU sympathises and supports the local people demonstrations, since late 2020, for the withdrawal of the Burma Army outposts that disrupts their daily lives in the KNU administration districts of Mutraw and Kler Lwee Htoo. Therefore, the KNU will continue to attempt to gain confidence in the ceasefire and living without fear for their civilians.
4. The KNU believes that in order to solve the increasing distrust of the ceasefire implementation and the escalating military tension between both sides, we must seek ways and solutions through bilateral military to military meetings based on the provisions of the NCA.
5. The KNU stands firmly on its position of consistently seeking sustainable political results through fair and just political negotiations and strengthening the ceasefire through a successful NCA implementation process.

Executive Committee
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