

Open letter to President Thein Sein

27 November 2014

For the sake of the smooth resumption of the nationwide peace process, we urge you to issue a Presidential order that will enforce the immediate and complete withdrawal of all Tatmadaw troops from along the Hka Ya Bum range. This area is home to four camps of internally-displaced persons, where over 17,000 civilians are presently taking shelter.

We believe that this order will be an important step in building much-needed trust between the two sides, help reduce tensions and skirmishes, and positively impact the resumption of peace negotiations. Tatmadaw operations and renewed violence are causing deep concerns among the people, leading to mistrust over the prospects of national reconciliation and reform within the country under your government.

As you yourself have recognised on many occasions, peace is an essential condition if the whole of Myanmar is to develop economically and thereby ensure that all of its citizens have a better future, with higher standards of education and health. Continued conflict in regions of our country will affect not just those who live in that area, but the rest of the country too, and will act as a deterrent to sustainable and responsible investment that creates jobs and opportunities.

The people believe that, as President in a critical time of national transition, you have the power to finally bring about genuine and lasting peace to our war-torn country, with the potential of making it the cornerstone of your Presidential legacy. The situation is now urgent.

Request and endorse by:

1. Airavati
2. Alin Say Ta Marn
3. Ayeyawady West Development Organization
4. Bridging Rural Integrated Development and Empowerment (BRIDGE)
5. Bat Ye Peasant Union
6. Bo Ga Lay Peasant Union
7. Burma Partnership
8. Color Rainbow

9. COMREG
10. DDA
11. Da Nu Phyu Peasant Union
12. Ein Ga Pu Peasant Union
13. Ein Mai Peasant Union
14. Enabling Legal Environment Network
15. Equality Myanmar
16. Farmers Right and Development Organization
17. Forum for Democracy in Burma
18. Gender and Development Initiative-Myanmar
19. Gender Equality Network (GEN)
20. Genuine People's Servants – GPS
21. Giving Hands
22. Golden Generation
23. Green Network Sustainable Environment Group
24. Green Soul
25. Green Trust Guiding Star (Pago)
26. Hands of Unity Group
27. Hin Tha Da Peasant Union
28. Human Rights Defender and Promoter
29. Humanity Institute
30. IFIwatch Myanmar
31. ISchool-Myanmar
32. Jomper Mon Women Development Working Group
33. Kachin Baptist Convention
34. Kachin Peace Network
35. Kachin Women Peace Network
36. Kachin Women Union
37. Kaladan Development Foundation
38. Kan Khin Peasant Union
39. Kan Kyi Daung Peasant Union
40. Karen Environmental and Social Action Network (KESAN)
41. Karen Peace Support Network (KPSN)
42. Karen Women Empowerment Group
43. Karen Youth Network (Yangon)
44. Karuna Myanmar Social Service (KMSS – Bamaw)
45. Karuna Luhmu Bawa Myint Tin Yae Association
46. Karuna Spectrum

47. Kaung Kone Peasant Union
48. Kaung Rwai Social Action Network (KSAN)
49. Khit Thit Lu Nge
50. Karen Rivers Watch (KRW)
51. Kyite Lat Peasant Union
52. Kyon Ma Ngay Peasant Union
53. Kyon Paw Peasant Union
54. Lay Myat Nar Peasant Union
55. Lands in Our Hands
56. Light House Network
57. Ma Eu Pin Peasant Union
58. Magway Farmers Union
59. Master Peace
60. Maw Kyone Peasant Union
61. May Sabe Phyu (individual)
62. Metta Development Foundation
63. Metta Ratana Mandalay
64. Millennium Light Development Organization
65. Myan Aung Peasant Union
66. Myanmar China Pipeline Watch Committee
67. Myanmar Youth Social and Education Local Focus (MYSELF)
68. Myaung Mya Peasant Union
69. Myo Gone Myint Youth Association
70. Mandalay Region Peasant Union
71. National NGO Network
72. Naung Tone Peasant Union
73. Network for Democracy and Development
74. Nga Pu Taw Peasant Union
75. Nga Yute Kaung Peasant Union
76. Ngwe Saung Peasant Union
77. Nyein Chan Yay YaNant Group
78. Pa Day Thar Moe
79. Pan Ta naw Peasant Union
80. Pa-Oh Youth Organisaition
81. Parn Pyoe Lett Youth Centre
82. Paung Ku
83. Peace and Justice
84. Peace Machine

85. Phan Tee Eain (Creative Home)
86. Pin Oo Lwin Farmer Network
87. Poem Lovers Association
88. Pyar Pon Peasant Union
89. Pyin Sa Lu Peasant Union
90. Pyoe Khin Thit
91. Sane Lan Pyin Oo Lwin
92. Sane Yaung Soe
93. Shan Pyi Myo Set Thit
94. Shwe Thaung Wan Peasant Union
95. Sittaung Thanzin social network
96. Sunflowers Group
97. Swe Tha Har Social Services
98. Tanintharyi River and Indigenous People Networks (TRIP NET)
99. Tarkapaw
100. Tharki New Bwar Dhamma Youth Network
101. Thar Paung Peasant Union
102. Triangle Women Network
103. United ACT
104. Union of Karenni State Youth (UKSY)
105. War Khal Ma Peasant Union
106. White Holding Hands
107. Women Initiative Network for Peace
108. Wunpawng Ninghtoi (WPN)
109. Ya Kyi Peasant Union
110. Yangon-Laiza Peace Walk Group
111. Youth Circle
112. Za Lon Peasant Union