



Statement
on the

“International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”

26 June 2013

On 26 June 2013, the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”, Restoration Council of the Shan State is indeed delighted to be with individuals, organizations and the governments taking interest in working on prevention of the danger of narcotic drugs as best as possible. As anti-narcotic drug has been one of the most important points of RCSS policy, RCSS has been continuously working on drug eradication and prevention of the danger of narcotic drugs up to the present.

With a clear policy, before making the ceasefire with President U Thein Sein government, RCSS had raided several heroin and drug refineries and seized a large amount of different kinds of narcotic drugs including heroin, opium, amphetamines, ice, chemicals and the accessories used in refining drugs. In RCSS controlled areas and the areas within reach, RCSS has given treatment to drug addicts and also the training on drug awareness.

After the agreement on making the ceasefire with president U Thein Sein government, RCSS extended its hands in cooperation of narcotic drug eradication and alternative development. This has been included as one of the most important points of all the agreements made between RCSS and the government. Besides drafting a proposal on how to cooperate in drug eradication and implementation, and presenting it in the meetings, RCSS has met with CCDAC (the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control) at State Level several times in Taunggyi of Shan State.

On the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking” in 2012, RCSS organized the drug burning ceremonies in Laikha, at its headquarters Loi Tai Leng and at other different places. It was conferred a Golden Eagle Award for “Good Relationship and Co-operating Information in Anti-Narcotic” by Association Protection and Resistance Criminal and Drug (APRCD) Co-operating with the Internal Security Operations command (ISOC), the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), and Loyal Thai Police.

Thereafter, RCSS had constant contacts with CCDAC and UNODC to jointly conduct pre-needs assessment for drug eradication and setting up AD project sites for crop substitution. In addition, RCSS opened a training on illicit drug eradication at its headquarters and its anti-narcotic division had conducted a pre-needs assessment in Mong Pan and Mong Nai in February, March and April 2013.

Besides UNODC and CCDAC, RCSS has a good intention to encourage every group and organization for their participation in drug eradication and alternative development for the benefit of the country and the future of younger generations. When a delegation of "Peace Making Committee" led by RCSS chairman visited Naypyidaw, RCSS met with government representatives and UNODC on the discussion of drug eradication and alternative development. A joint press conference with UNODC was conducted.

The discussion points of RCSS are as follow,

1. (3) types of responsibility to be taken by the project sites
 - (a) Agriculture
 - (b) Giving the training of awareness on drugs
 - (c) Giving treatment to drug addicts and assigning suitable jobs
2. (3) types of responsibility to be taken by RCSS and CCDAC
 - (a) Both sides must support the project of drug eradication
 - (b) To arrest any drug dealer at any place and give punishment
 - (c) To jointly prevent foreign traders
3. At the project sites
 - (a) There must be only security forces assigned jointly by both sides
 - (b) The security should not be interfered by any troops of the armies

On the "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking", RCSS is happy to state that it is ready to jointly discuss and make implementation with regard to the 5 year plan of the UNODC to cooperate with RCSS, CCDAC of the government and every group concerned for the implementation in the Shan State in meeting with the international guideline standard set by UN with regard to drug eradication and alternative development.

Central Executive Committee
Restoration Council of the Shan state