



**Statement on
The Current Peace Process and Restoration Council of Shan State's Position
Date: 8 October 2015**

1. Shan State has its own history and was once ruled by Shan princes. When it was annexed by the British colonization in 1886, it still had the right to enjoy full autonomous status. In 1947, as the political situations had changed, the highland peoples Kachin, Chin and Shan joined hands with the Burman of the lowland and signed an historic treaty known as "Panglong Agreement" in order to gain independence from the British and form a Union together.
2. However, only about a decade after the Union was formed, the Burmese military seized power from the then civilian government and put the country under military rule, depriving all the other ethnic nationalities of virtually all their rights and causing them to later take up arms to wage a resistance war against the military dictatorship up to these days.
3. In 2008, a referendum was held by the military government and adopted a constitution, known as 2008 Constitution, although it do not reflect the desires of the people as well as the ethnic resistance armed organizations. In 2010, the government was formed after national election and Gen. Thein Sein became the President. On 8 August 2011, the government of President U Thein Sein officially invited to all the ethnic resistance armed organizations for cease fire and to solve political problems through political means.
4. Although after the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) held a meeting with the Union Peacemaking Work Committee (UPWC) and signed the initial ceasefire agreement with the government on 2 December 2011 for more than 3 years now, due to the problem that the Burma army did not comply with the ceasefire agreement, often armed clashes have been occurred between both sides during the period.
5. Since the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) has been negotiated back and forth to draft by both the ethnic resistance armed organizations and the government, the RCSS have been supported all along the process and the NCA is the agreement to be comply by both sides.
6. In order to build national peace in the country, the Restoration Council of Shan State seriously would like to request to Government that the government should not deploy their troops by any mean in the areas of townships such as Mong Pan, Mong Nai, Larng Khur, Mawk Mai, Nam Zarng, Pang Long, Loi Lem, Mong Peng, Lawk Zaw, Lai Kha, Mong Kerng, Kyawk Me, Mu Ze, Nam Kham, Mong Ko, Ke See, Kun Hing, Keng Lom, Keng Tawng, Mong Pu Long, Mong Pu On, Keng Tung, Ta Khi Lek and Mong Ton Townships

where RCSS/SSA have been active to avoid the fighting. All of the existing problems or difference should be solved through Liaison offices by peaceful mean.

7. In order to be able to solve problem which may occur between RCSS/SSA and the Burma army in a timely manner, the RCSS/SSA also would like to request to government to open more of the RCSS/SSA Peace-building Liaison offices.

8. As political and national problems are the issues should be solved together in unity, in order to live peacefully together, trust must be built and the 2008 constitution must be amended. To be able to go forward to solve the political problems by political and peaceful means and to the guarantees of the equal rights, self-determination and building genuine democratic federal union which are the foundation and spirit of the Panglong Agreement, the RCSS/SSA have decided to sign the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) and to join hands to solve political problems by political mean on political dialogues.

Central Executive Committee
Restoration Council