

Statement on World Humanitarian Day, 19th August 2020

Myanmar Civil Society Organizations and Networks

Nearly 168 million people will need humanitarian crisis and protection in 2020, according to Global Humanitarian Overview 2020. Nearly 71 million have been fled from their homes by driven of conflicts and persecution across the world since the beginning of 2019. In Myanmar, more than 985,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance. The humanitarian crises in Myanmar are consequences of multiple factors including armed conflict, inter-communal violence and natural disaster. In addition to the crises provoked by violent conflicts, Myanmar ranks as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to Natural disasters.

In Myanmar, the conflicts continue to be the main driver of humanitarian needs in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Chin, Mon, Kayah (Karenni) and Kayin states and lead to protracted displacement, food insecurity, chronic poverty, limited social support networks, deterioration of physical and mental wellbeing, and living standards. More than 300,000 IDPs are displaced in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Chin and Kayin states. Thousands of refugees from Karen, Karenni, Mon, and Shan are still remaining in refugee and IDPs camps along Thailand-Myanmar border while been living there more than three decades. Over six thousands Shan IDPs in Loi Tai Leng areas have been facing food shortage since the end of 2017.

In Rakhine State, the humanitarian situation has been deteriorating significantly, since 2017 more than 740,000 refugees have been forced to flee to Bangladesh. Since December 2018, due to the intense fighting of Myanmar Armed Forces (Tatmadaw) and Arakan Army, almost 200,000 civilians have been displaced in Rakhine and Chin states. Myanmar Armed Forces announced on the 9th of May 2020 that they suspend their military operations until the 31st August 2020 across the country except in the conflict area in Rakhine and Southern Chin States; increasing casualties, injuries and displacements of civilians. At the same time, the ongoing armed conflict between the Myanmar government Armed Forces and the Ethnic Armed Organizations including Kachin Independence Organisation (KIO)¹, has entered in its 10th year of active war.

In this context and now, with the COVID-19 global pandemic, we are extremely worried on the impact, it may have on IDPs and Refugee communities, as they are one of the most vulnerable groups to COVID-19; living in a congested situation with limited services, where social distancing and hygiene practices are difficult to be kept. Moreover, the loss of livelihoods and reduction of Humanitarian access, due to travel restrictions, make IDPs extremely unsecured for their food security and children education.

At the same time, the pandemic has created a public health emergency with immediate and long-term health and economic consequences for society particularly impacting on the most vulnerable groups such as women, children, adolescents, people with disabilities, the marginalized including people living with HIV, drug users, urban poor, migrant

¹The armed conflict between the Government Armed Forces (Tatmadaw) and the Kachin Independence Organization/Army (KIO/KIA) broke out again in early June 2011, after 17 years of ceasefire.

workers, factory workers, indigenous populations, minorities, sexual and gender minorities-LGBTIQ+ etc. and the displaced, all pay the highest price in current COVID-19 pandemic. The livelihood and food security issues become critical for many ordinary people which leads to stress, growing of fear and anxiety. There are social stigma and discrimination against migrant returnees and strangers. Moreover, domestic violence, gender based violence and suicide is a growing trend.

On the World Humanitarian Day on 19th August, the Myanmar Civil Society Organizations and networks including JST², HST-NSS³, AHCT⁴, KnRRRWG⁵ would like to restate our commitment to continue working hand in hand with those affected by this horrible humanitarian crisis; counting on the support and solidarity of many individuals and institutions which are showing their concern and generosity to alleviate the human suffering that the crisis is provoking. Equally, we express our solidarity with all the people affected by any kind of humanitarian crisis, in Myanmar and around the world and honor the humanitarian workers who have committed their lives to helping others in the most extreme circumstances throughout the world.

URGENT REQUESTS:

Considering these dire circumstances, we make the following *urgent requests to all those committed with Human Dignity and Human Rights and all the Stakeholders in this crisis:*

- 1. STOP THE WAR NOW AT WHOLE COUNTRY:** All attacks against civilians, and violations of Human Rights should be stopped immediately; respecting fully civilian protection and abiding to International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law. COVID-19 must be an opportunity to reset the agenda for peace based on justice and mutual respect of all the rich and diverse ethnic groups that compose the Union of Myanmar.
- 2. PROTECT IDPs AND RETURNEES' RIGHTS:** All IDPs, returnees and resettled people's Rights should be respected, and any return and resettlement must be done according to International Humanitarian and Human Rights Laws and related durable solution standards. It must be ensured that IDPs are entitled to restore their housing, land and property rights, as well as their cultural and civil rights in their places of origin.
- 3. ENSURE HUMANITARIAN ACCESS:** Myanmar government and the Myanmar Armed Forces (Tatmadaw) must take full responsibility and accountability for the rights of all the citizens of the Union of Myanmar, including and especially IDPs and Returnees; and strictly observe International Humanitarian Law to ensure unimpeded access to all IDPs and

²Joint Strategy Team

³ Humanitarian Strategy Team – Northern Shan

⁴ Arakan Humanitarian Coordination Team

⁵ Karenni Refugee Repatriation and Reconstruction Working Group

Returnees or resettled ones, and recent conflict affected population, especially in northern Rakhine and southern Chin States, and facilitating COVID-19 related response by removing all restrictions preventing CSOs from providing emergency assistances.

4. All parties **should allow access for CBOs, CSOs, NGOs to provide humanitarian assistance in the conflict affected areas.**
5. Humanitarian aid for **IDPs and refugees must go through cross border through existing Community Based Organizations serving the regions** rather than through central government.
6. **Ensure rights to health and essential services for vulnerable groups under COVID-19** and continue to provide a wide spectrum of social protection and essential services including access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), cash transfer programmes, livelihood opportunity, and basic healthcare services. Myanmar: COVID-19 Economic Relief plan and COVID-19 response must give priority to the most vulnerable groups such as migrant returnees, factory workers, small holder farmers, urban poor populations, and people living with disability, women, IDPs and refugees.

Civil Society Organization and Network

Contact

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Signed Civil Society Organization and Network

- 1) Action Group for Farmers Affair (ပဲခူး)
- 2) Action Group for Farmers Affair (AGFA) (စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်း)
- 3) Action Group for Farmers Affair (AGFA) (ပဲခူးတိုင်း)
- 4) Action Group for Farmers Affair (AGFA) (မကွေးတိုင်း)
- 5) Action Group for Farmers Affair (AGFA) (မန္တလေးတိုင်း)
- 6) Action Group for Farmers Affair (AGFA) (ဧရာဝတီတိုင်း)
- 7) Ahlin Tagar Rural Development Organization
- 8) Ahr Thit Yaung Chi (Hline Bwe) အားသစ်ရောင်ခြည် (လှိုင်းဘွဲ့မြို့နယ်)
- 9) Airavati Organization
- 10) Alinn Bhamaw Local Development Organization
- 11) Alinsaetamarn Library & Resource Center
- 12) Arakan Humanitarian Coordination Team (AHT)

- 13) Area Peace and Development Forward
- 14) Arr Marn Thit Social Development Organization
- 15) Awareness Raising of Using Drugs (ARUD)
- 16) AWDI Active Women Development Initiative
- 17) Ayeyarwaddy West Development organization (AWDO, Magway Region)
- 18) Ayeyarwaddy West Development organization (AWDO, Nagphe)
- 19) AYY Farmer Union
- 20) Ayyar Pyo May Women Development Organization
- 21) Banmaw Youth Network
- 22) Bee House
- 23) BRIDGE
- 24) CAFT (Citizen Action for Transparency)
- 25) Center Learning for Youth (CLAY)
- 26) Central Chin Youth Organization
- 27) Child Care Foundation (မြဝတီမြို့နယ်)
- 28) Child Prevention Network
- 29) Chin MATA Working Group
- 30) Civic Development Institute – CDI
- 31) Civil Call
- 32) Community Association Development
- 33) Community Care for Emergency Response and Rehabilitation
- 34) Community Empowerment and Resilience Association (CERA)
- 35) Community Response Group (ComReG)
- 36) Constitution Network (Hpa An) အခြေခံဥပဒေကွန်ရက် (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 37) CSSDD (Pathein)
- 38) Daifin Social Services
- 39) Dama Ahlin Social Development Organization
- 40) Dawei Development Association
- 41) Democratic Education Corner- DEC
- 42) Doe Myae Civil Social Development Organization
- 43) Down Peace
- 44) Enlightened Myanmar Research Foundation (EMReF)
- 45) Environmental Conservation and Farmer Development Organization (ECFD)
- 46) Ever Green
- 47) Farmer Agricultural Network
- 48) Farmers and Landworkers Union (FLU)
- 49) Farmers And Land Rights Action Group
- 50) Free & Fair (Chaung Oo)
- 51) Free and Justice Women Network (Hpa An) F&J (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)

- 52) Free Education Service Organization
- 53) Future Light for Child - FLC
- 54) Future Light Social Development Organization
- 55) Future Star Youth Organization
- 56) Future Women Association
- 57) Future Young Pioneer Organization (F.Y.P.O)
- 58) Generation Wave
- 59) Genuine People's Servants - GPS
- 60) Golden Future Social Development Organization
- 61) Golden Heart Organization
- 62) Grape Hands
- 63) Good Hope
- 64) Green Network Mergui Archipelago
- 65) Green Network Tanintharyi Region (Myanmar)
- 66) Heartland Foundation
- 67) Helping Hand Organization
- 68) Hline Bwe Youth Network လှိုင်းဘွဲ့လူငယ်ကွန်ရက်
- 69) Hope For Children Development Organization
- 70) Hsar Du Wor CBO (Than Taunggyi) (ဆာဒူဝေါ် CBO) (သံတောင်ကြီးမြို့နယ်)
- 71) Hsar Ka Baw CBO (Than Taunggyi) (ဆာကပေါ် CBO) (သံတောင်ကြီးမြို့နယ်)
- 72) Hsar Mu Htaw (Than Taunggyi) (လူမှုအထောက်အကူပြုအဖွဲ့) (သံတောင်ကြီးမြို့နယ်)
- 73) Htaw Mae Pa CSO (Hline Bwe) ထော်မဲပါ CSO (လှိုင်းဘွဲ့မြို့နယ်)
- 74) Htoi Gender and Development Foundation
- 75) Htoi Ninghkawng Foundation (HNF)
- 76) Htoi San Local Development Organization
- 77) Htum Thit Sa Rural Development Organization
- 78) Humanity Institute
- 79) IFI Watch Myanmar
- 80) Joint Strategy Team (JST)
- 81) Justice Movement for Community – Innlay
- 82) Justice Society (JS)
- 83) Kachin Consultation Working Group (KCWG)
- 84) Kachin National Youth Network (KNYN)
- 85) Kachin Women Association
- 86) Kachin Women Union
- 87) Kachin Youth Organization (KYO)
- 88) Kachine Relief and Development Committee
- 89) Kan Chay Arr Man Fishery Development Organization
- 90) Kanpetlet Land Development Organization

- 91) Karen Affairs Group KAG (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 92) Karen State Women Network KSWN (Hpa An)
- 93) Karen Youth Organization (Hpa Pun) ကရင်လူငယ်အဖွဲ့ (ဖားပွန်မြို့နယ်)
- 94) Karen Youth Organization KYO (Kyar Inn Sate Kyee) (ကြာအင်းဆိတ်ကြီးမြို့နယ်)
- 95) Karenni Human Right Group
- 96) Karenni Refugee Repatriation and Reconstruction Working Group
- 97) Karuna Foundation (Kawkareik) ကရုဏာဖောင်ဒေးရှင်း (ကော့ကရိတ်မြို့နယ်)
- 98) Kaung Myat Hnalonethar Health Care Organization
- 99) Kayah Baptist Association- CSSDD
- 100) KESAN (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 101) Kyaukphyu SEZ Watch
- 102) Kyondoe Youth Development Group (KYDG)
- 103) Kyun Ta Htaung Myae Foundation
- 104) LatButta Farmer Union
- 105) Light House Ayeyarwaddy Network
- 106) Light Social Development Organization
- 107) Lin lake Kyal Social Development Organization
- 108) Living Water Organization
- 109) Loi Yang Bum Community Development
- 110) Lu Mu Htar CBO (Than Taunggyi) (လူမှုထာ CBO) (သံတောင်ကြီးမြို့နယ်)
- 111) MATA (Arakan) Working Group
- 112) MATA စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်း
- 113) MATA ဧရာဝတီအလုပ်အဖွဲ့
- 114) MATA မန္တလေးတိုင်း
- 115) May Doe Arrman Women Development Organization
- 116) Metta Development Foundation
- 117) Mi Kayin Youth (Hpa An) မိကရင်လူငယ် (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 118) Migalar Foundation
- 119) Mon Area Community Development Organization (MACDO)
- 120) Mon Literature and Culture Association (Kawkareik) မွန်စာပေနှင့် ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအဖွဲ့
(ကော့ကရိတ်မြို့နယ်)
- 121) Mon State Community Association
- 122) Mon Youth Organization (Zobbu)
- 123) Muditar Organization
- 124) Mung Chying Rawt Jat အခြေခံလူထုဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးအဖွဲ့
- 125) Mwetaung Area Development Group
- 126) Myanmar Cultural Research Society (MCRS)
- 127) Myit Ma Ayeyarwaddy Development Organization
- 128) Nam Shani Organization

- 129) Namkyeo Parahita Foundation
- 130) NeT Organization (NeT)
- 131) NNER- National Network for Education Reform
- 132) Nyan Lynn Thit Analytica
- 133) Nyein (Shalom) Foundation ငြိမ်းစောင်ဒေးရှင်း
- 134) P.D.CE (Peace, Development & Civic Engagement)
- 135) Pan Tain Shin Women Rural Development Organization
- 136) Pan Thi Kyo LGBT Organization
- 137) Paungsee Arr Institute (PAI)
- 138) Paungsee Myittar Organization
- 139) Peace and Development Initiative-Kintha (PDI-Kintha)
- 140) Peace World Gender Organization
- 141) People for People (PFP)
- 142) Phyu Sin Myittar Social Development Organization
- 143) Pone Yate Sit Regional Development Organization
- 144) Pwintphyu Development Organization.
- 145) Pyoe Social Development Organization
- 146) Rakha Strength Social Development
- 147) Rakhine Ethnic Congress (REC)
- 148) Rakhine Women Network
- 149) Rakhine Youth New Generation Network (RYNG-N)
- 150) RDO Rural Development Organization
- 151) RISE - Research Institute for Society and Ecology
- 152) Rule of Law Watch Group
- 153) Rural Social Development Organization
- 154) S & K Mining Watch
- 155) Salween Network သံလွင်ကွန်ရက် (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 156) Sane Lann Myo Set (Hpa An) စိမ်းလန်းမျိုးဆက် (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 157) Sarnar Kyi Phyu Social Development Organization
- 158) SarPhyu Farmer Network
- 159) Saytana Shaesaung Youth Organization
- 160) Saytanar Shin Social Development Organization
- 161) Shan State Youth Capacity Building Center (SSYCBC)
- 162) Shan Women Development Network
- 163) Shan Youth Yangon
- 164) Shwe Min Thar Foundation
- 165) Shwe Nathar Farmer Development Organization
- 166) Shwe Network
- 167) Shwe Thinkha Social Development Organization

- 168) Shwechinthae Farmers Network
- 169) Shwechinthae Social Service Group (Shwebo)
- 170) SKY-Youth, Kyaukphyu
- 171) Social Development Organization
- 172) Southern Youth Development Organization
- 173) Students and Youth Congress of Burma
- 174) Summer Shelter Library
- 175) Swam Su Ti Rural Development Organization
- 176) TANKS Transparency and Accountability Network of Kachin State
- 177) TEN, Taunggyi Education Network
- 178) Thint Myat Lo Thu Myat (Peace Seekers and Multiculturalist Movement)
- 179) Third Eye Organization
- 180) Thit Sar Gone Network သစ္စာဂုဏ်ကွန်ရက်
- 181) THWEE CSO (Kawkareik) သို့: CSO (ကော့ကရိတ်မြို့နယ်)
- 182) Together Thanlyin အဖွဲ့.
- 183) Township Leading Group
- 184) Uakthon Local Social Development Organization
- 185) Waimaw Civil Society Network
- 186) Waimaw Lisu Development Association
- 187) Wan Lark Development Foundation (WLDF)
- 188) Windayel Village Social Organization (Hpa An) ဝင်းဒရယ်ကျေးရွာလူမှုရေးအဖွဲ့.(ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 189) Women Capacity Building (Kawkareik)
အမျိုးသမီးစွမ်းဆောင်ရည်မြှင့်တင်ရေး(ကော့ကရိတ်မြို့နယ်)
- 190) Women Power Club WPC
- 191) Worker Development Organization
- 192) Wunpawng Ninghtoi
- 193) Yai Ywal Yar Youth Development Organization
- 194) Yatanar Youngyi Social Development Organization
- 195) YMCA (Lashio)
- 196) Young Ni Oo Social Development Organization
- 197) Young Ni Oo Women Group
- 198) Zo Youth organization Myanmar (ZYO)
- 199) Zomi Students and Youth Organization
- 200) ကရုဏာလူမှုစည်းလုံးညီညွတ်ရေးအသင်း (KMSS, Lashio)
- 201) ကမ်းထောင်းကြီး လူငယ်မျိုးဆက်သစ်
- 202) ကလျာဏမိတ္တလူမှုကူညီရေးအသင်း (ရှားတော ရေဦး)
- 203) စာပေဥယျာဉ် ဘူးသီးတောင်
- 204) စိမ်းရောင်စို (တံတားဦး)
- 205) စေတနာ့လူငယ်များအဖွဲ့.

- 206) တအာင်းကျောင်းသားနှင့် လူငယ်များအဖွဲ့. (TSYU)
- 207) တအာင်းဥပဒေအထောက်အကူပြုအဖွဲ့. (TLA)
- 208) တအာင်းအမျိုးသမီးအဖွဲ့အစည်း (TWO)
- 209) တောင်ကုတ်လူငယ်ကွန်ရက်
- 210) တောင်သူလယ်သမားများနှင့် မြေယာလုပ်သားများသမဂ္ဂ (မြိတ်ခရိုင်)
- 211) တောင်သူလယ်သမားသမဂ္ဂ ကန်ဘလူမြို့နယ်
- 212) ထီးချိုင့်ကွန်ရက်
- 213) ဒို့မြေကွန်ရက်
- 214) ပန်းပျိုးလက် ဗန်းမော် လူမှုရေးအဖွဲ့.
- 215) ပေါင်းကူး
- 216) ပေါင်းစည်းအားမာန်
- 217) ပဲခူး စေတနာအလင်းအိမ်ပညာဒါနကျောင်း
- 218) ဘဝအားမာန် အသင်း
- 219) မကွေး MATA
- 220) မရာမာကြီးလူငယ်များကွန်ရက်
- 221) မြစ်ဖျားဧရာအဖွဲ့.
- 222) မြို့လူငယ်များဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့.
- 223) မြောက်ဦးလူငယ်များ အစည်းအရုံး (MUYA)
- 224) မေသရဖူ
- 225) ရခိုင်ရှေ့ဆောင်အမျိုးသမီးများအဖွဲ့.
- 226) ရခိုင်ပြည်ကျောင်းသားများသမဂ္ဂ
- 227) ရခိုင်မျိုးဆက်သစ်အမျိုးသမီးအဖွဲ့.
- 228) ရခိုင်အရပ်ဘက်အဖွဲ့အစည်းများကွန်ရက် (ACN)
- 229) ရမ်းဗြဲမြို့နယ်လူငယ်များကွန်ရက်
- 230) ရွှေပန်းပျိုးလက်ပညာဒါန အမျိုးသမီးနှင့် ကလေးသူငယ်များကွန်ရက်
- 231) ရသေ့တောင်မြို့နယ် လူငယ်ကွန်ရက်
- 232) ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်(မြောက်ပိုင်း) နှစ်ခြင်းခရစ်ယာန်အဖွဲ့ချုပ် (NSSBC)
- 233) ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်ကချင်စာပေနှင့် ယဉ်ကျေးမှု (SWLH)
- 234) ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်ကချင်အမျိုးသားလုံးဆိုင်ရာကွန်ရက် (SKNN)
- 235) ရှမ်းလူငယ်များအဖွဲ့. (TYO)
- 236) ရေအေးမိတ်ဖက်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ
- 237) လမ်းပြကြယ် LGBT group
- 238) လွတ်လပ်သောလူ့ဘောင် (ဖားအံမြို့နယ်)
- 239) လွတ်လပ်သောအရှိချင်းများအင်အားစု
- 240) လောကပါလတရားမြှင့်တင်ရေးကွန်ရက်
- 241) ဝါးစိမ်းတောင်ကာကွယ်စောင့်ကြည့်ရေးကော်မတီ (WPWC)
- 242) သက်လူငယ်များဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့.
- 243) သင့် မြတ်သူများ၏ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးလမ်းစဉ်အဖွဲ့.(PoPP)
- 244) သင်္ခါလူမှုကူညီရေးအဖွဲ့. (ဖားကန်)

- 245) သန္တာရင်သွီး မျိုးဆက်သစ်လူငယ်များအဖွဲ့
- 246) ဟုမ္မလင်း လူငယ်ကွန်ရက်
- 247) အစိမ်းရောင်ဘဝများ
- 248) အနာဂတ်အလင်း ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ
- 249) အနောက်တံခါးလူငယ်များအဖွဲ့
- 250) အမျိုးသမီးငြိမ်းချမ်းရေး နှင့် လုံခြုံရေးကွန်ရက် ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်မြောက်ပိုင်း (WPSN-NSS)
- 251) အမ်းလူငယ်မျိုးဆက်သစ်
- 252) အလင်းရောင်ပန်တိုင် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မတီ
- 253) အုန်းတော ပရဟိတ ဖောင်ဒေးရှင်း
- 254) ၈၈ မျိုးဆက် ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးနှင့် ပွင့်လင်းလူ့အဖွဲ့အစည်း (မြိတ်)
- 255) အဖြူရောင်လက်များလူမှုအကျိုးပြုအဖွဲ့
- 256) မုန်းချောင်းချစ်သူ
- 257) ကညွတ်ကွင်းလူငယ်စင်တာ
- 258) အလင်းသီတံ
- 259) ပေါက်ခေါင်းလူငယ်ကွန်ရက်
- 260) Women Development
- 261) မေတ္တာရောင်စဉ်လူငယ်
- 262) ဟင်္သာတံခွန်
- 263) ကမ်းလက်များအဖွဲ့
- 264) အလင်းရောင်အရပ်ဘက်အဖွဲ့
- 265) စစ်မှန်သောဆန္ဒလူမှုအဖွဲ့
- 266) မတူကွဲပြားခြင်းနှင့် ပြည်သူ့အမှန်တရား
- 267) ဆရာကြီးသခင်ကိုယ်တော်မှိုင်းကွန်ရက် (ပြည်ခရိုင်)
- 268) ရွှေကျင်ချစ်သူများအသင်း
- 269) ငြိမ်းသံလွင်ဖောင်ဒေးရှင်း