



CHIN NATIONAL FRONT

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CNF Statement Welcoming the Burma Act and UNSC Resolution

4 January 2023 – Camp Victoria: The Chin National Front sends our best wishes to the Chin people and all peoples of the Union of Burma who relentlessly continue the just fight against the terror of the State Administration Council (SAC).

We pay our highest tribute to the brave young men and women who sacrificed their lives for our nation while resisting the vicious military onslaught of the junta this past year. The junta neither follows any internationally accepted rules of engagement in the conduct of warfare, nor has any bounds in their methods of brutality. We mourn for the civilian victims, including innocent women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly, who were mercilessly tortured, murdered, indiscriminately bombed, maimed and uprooted from the homes to become Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) across the country or to become refugees in neighboring countries.

Looking back at the past year, the resistance movement has become stronger, more resilient and united. The junta has grossly underestimated the will and determination of the people. Tyrannical regimes thrive on imposing fear to keep control of the population. But the SAC junta's brutal methods to rule through fear has backfired on them. The people have become more resentful because of the junta's boundless barbaric acts of inhumanity. This has reinvigorated a new resolve to carry on the fight to the end. The establishment of the Chinland Joint Defense Committee (CJDC) has enabled us to carry out joint strategic operations to defend our lines and to repel and attack incoming SAC infantry forces. The Chin National Army and the local Chinland Defense Forces from across the Townships are joining hands to launch successful attacks on well-fortified outposts and reinforcement convoys and supply lines, resulting in heavy losses on the SAC side.

Administratively, the junta has lost control of well over 70 percent of the territory and as a result, has ceded administrative functions to the resistance forces who occupy much of rural Chin State. Thanks to the resilience of the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM), the SAC can now only perform limited administrative functions in the major towns via a small percentage of public employees who retain their positions either due to coercion or for fear of losing their only source of income or pension benefits and privileges. At the same time, the resistance is only getting more organized, able and more resourceful in running parallel administrations in much of rural Chin State to provide basic services for the majority of the population, who live outside of the SAC administrative control.

The importance of the contributions of the diaspora communities to the resistance movement cannot go unmentioned. Propelled by a deep desire to realize a peaceful future without military dictatorships and energized by the real prospect of being able to defeat the junta, the exiled Chin communities have given their everything to a shared goal: the establishment of a new and genuine federal democratic state. To this end, the Chin National Front, along with our allies within our borders and beyond, commits ourselves to carrying forward the trust and support and responsibility entrusted to us.

We heartily welcome the passage of the Burma Act as part of the Defense Bill, the National Defense Authorization Act 2023 in both Chambers of the United States Congress and the signing into law by the President thereof. We are also greatly encouraged by the passage of the unprecedented UN Security



Council Resolution on Burma, Resolution 2669. These two important developments of the past year will give significant and transformative impetus and energy to the resistance movement. For its part, the CNF stands ready to work with allies in the movement, including the Ethnic Resistance Organizations and local defense forces, the National Unity Government and civil society organizations to redouble efforts to end the military dictatorship in Burma once and for all. We are also committed to working more closely with our neighboring countries in addressing the common concerns posed by the multi-pronged internal crises in Burma that have become a source of regional and global instability.

In spite of all the human losses and tragedies caused by the failed military coup of February 2021, the new year brings new hopes and brighter prospects for all peoples of Burma. All evidence of the past year indicates the military is losing grips, suffering militarily and on a slippery slope. Beyond Burma's borders, they are losing friends and allies in the region, becoming politically isolated and diplomatically shunned in the international arena. And the people are gaining grounds, becoming more invigorated, organized, capable and more determined.

The junta and their shrinking allies are clearly on the wrong side of history, and we are on the right side. Morale among their ranks and file and foot soldiers is at its lowest in the history of the Tatmadaw. We are winning the battles and are on the verge of winning the war. We are becoming more resilient and more resolved. It is this spirit that will lead us to final victory. May the New Year bring new hopes and comfort to families whose lives have been torn apart; whose homes, properties livelihoods have been destroyed; and whose bright futures have been disrupted, sabotaged or put on hold. Let us all celebrate the new possibilities and hopes of new beginnings.

Central Executive Committee
Chin National Front

