

Karen National Union Supreme Headquarters Kawthoolei www.knuhq.org

Date: October 11, 2023

Statement of Condemnation of the Myanmar Military Junta's Attacks against a Kachin IDP Camp that Killed Innocent Civilians

- 1. The Karen National Union (KNU) expressed its deep condolences to the Kachin people, Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) and especially the bereaved families of the 29 brutally killed civilians, including women, infants and minors, and the 57 injured from the Myanmar military junta's heavy artillery attack on an internally displaced persons camp of Mung Lai Hkyet near Laiza where the KIO headquarters is located.
- 2. The KNU strongly condemns this act of violence since such an excessive use of force to carry out reckless attacks regardless of military or civilian targets or children with no mercy on people's lives is nothing but war crime.
- 3. The military junta has been repeatedly committing deliberate attacks against civilian population, hospitals, schools, religious building and other inhumane human rights violations over several years across the country, urban or rural areas. At the same time, the military junta has been trying to use humanitarian aid for people fleeing the war as a weapon for political gain.
- 4. We call upon the international communities to take urgent actions in the strongest possible terms against the military junta that continues to commit crimes against humanity and war crimes with no sign of compromise; to cut ties with the coup maker in all avenues of international relations; and stop providing them access to finance, arms and any form of protection.
- 5. We, the Karen National Union (KNU), stand united with the Kachin people and the entire people of the country, vow to make our best efforts to protect the civilians as well as to continue joining hands with our fellow revolutionary forces to bring an end of the chauvinism and all kinds of authoritarianism in the country.

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