

POLITICAL MONITOR NO.37

OFFICIAL MEDIA

BURMESE PRESIDENT MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT TO BRUNEI

At the invitation of King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, President Thein Sein arrived on 4 December to begin a three-day state visit aimed bolstering bilateral ties ahead of Brunei's ASEAN chairmanship next year. During the official talks following the welcoming ceremony for the Burmese President, the leaders agreed on further developing bilateral relations between the two countries. The two leaders also discussed the need to establish a Joint Commission between the two foreign ministries with the aim of promoting friendship, bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries. Signing of an agreement on double taxation avoidance and promoting cooperation in education, health and energy as potential growth areas between the two countries was also raised during the talks. The leaders also agreed to increase closer relations between the ministries concerned of both countries for successful implementation of the tasks of ASEAN Chair in 2013 and 2014 respectively. Both sides also stressed the necessity to accelerate their efforts for the establishment of ASEAN Community by 2015, and that the two countries will work with fellow ASEAN member states to achieve the objective. The Burmese leader also extended an invitation to the King to visit Burma at an opportune time in the future. During the visit President Thein Sein visited Brunei LNG and also met the Burmese nationals currently working in Brunei.¹

UN COORDINATOR FOR HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS MEETS BURMESE LEADERS

UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Baroness Valerie Amos arrived in Burma on a four-day official visit (3-7) December. The visiting UN Coordinator who is making her first trip to the country, called on President Thein Sein on 6 December and also met Vice President Sai Mauk Kham on 4 December in Naypyitaw. During the talks, the two sides discussed a wide range of issues including cooperation with UN, providing humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected areas, disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and education programme. While in Naypyitaw, Baroness Amos met the Pyidaungsu (*Union*) and Upper House Speaker Khin Aung Myint and Lower House Deputy Speaker Nanda Kyaw Swa and discussed matters relating to natural disaster preparedness and rehabilitation tasks, peace and development in Rakhine and Kachin States. The UN Under-Secretary-General and party accompanied by Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay and Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin visited relief camps in Myebon, Pauktaw and Maungtaw Townships and Ohndawgyi camp in Sittway in Rakhine State on 5 December and met those affected by the recent communal unrests and progress in providing humanitarian assistance. She also visited Mai Kawng camp, located outside Myitkyina, the Kachin State capital on 6 December. The camp located in a Government-controlled area, currently has 700 IDPs and receives regular assistance from aid organizations.

According to a press release from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Ms. Amos stated that she raised the Kachin issue when she met President Thein Sein and expressed her concern on the lack of humanitarian access in some Government-controlled areas and

¹ President U Thein Sein leaves for Brunei Darussalam –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-04.pdf> (NLM) 4 December 2012 (p.8)/

Brunei King grants audience to President U Thein Sein –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-05.pdf> (NLM) 5 December 2012 (p. 9)/

Myanmar, Brunei focus on strengthening bilateral relations, further cooperation on mutually beneficial basis in future –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-06.pdf> (NLM) 6 December 2012 (p.1 & 9)/

Myanmar-Brunei relations and cooperation promoted through ASEAN, regional and multilateral organizations –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-06.pdf> (NLM) 6 December 2012 (p.2)/

Shell looks to possibility of working with Myanmar –

<http://www.theborneopost.com/2012/12/06/shell-looks-to-possibility-of-working-with-myanmar/> (Borneo Post) 6

December 2012

in Kachin Independent Organization (KIO)-controlled areas. She also commended the President on his pledge to implement measures, including addressing issues such as citizenship, resettlement, and reconciliation in Rakhine State as well as pursuing a durable ceasefire in Kachin but expressed “grave concerns” for the displaced people in some parts of the Kachin State where the UN has no access.²

GOVERNMENTS UNION-LEVEL PEACE COMMITTEE VISITS MONGLA REGION

Vice-Chairmen of Union-level Peace-making Committee Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min accompanied by Chairman of the Lower House National Races Affairs Internal Peace-making Committee U Thein Zaw and senior government ministers met the Chairman of Mongla Special Region (4)/ National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA), U Sai Lin and members on 3 December and discussed matters related to establishing peace. During the talks, U Sai Lin said his group will continue to uphold the main pillars of the Union; Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of the national solidarity and Non-disintegration of the sovereignty in 23 years of making peace. He expressed thanks for the government’s efforts in providing assistance to develop Mongla region and also reported on necessities of the region.

Vice-Chairman U Aung Min said the peace-making committee has been taking measures based on ceasefire, regional development and participation of all national races. The Union government and the state government would fulfill the needs for the development of the region, he added. Similarly, U Thein Zaw urged the officials of the Mongla Special Region (4) to move forwards with added momentum as Mongla region has already achieved stability and basic foundation for regional developments. The signing ceremonies between the government and special region-4 were held for two times in Union level and one time in state level. He spoke words of praise for strict adherence to the points agreed in the treaty. He continued that Hluttaw had approved the bills necessary for the people to enjoy all-round development submitted by representatives elected by the people in accord with the Constitution. He called for collaborative efforts towards emergence of a democratic nation as inspired by all national brethren. The government delegation also presented Kyats 93 million for regional development projects.³

GOVERNMENT PEACE MAKING TEAM HOLDS TALKS WITH WA LEADERS

The government Peace-Making Team led by Minister at President’s Office U Aung Min and senior government officials held discussions with Vice-Chairman U Shaik Min Hlyan (a) Xiao Minliang of the Panghsan Special Region No (2)/’Wa’ Region.

During the talks, the Peace-Making Team extended an invitation to the Wa leaders to observe the proceedings of the parliament when its 5th session begins early next year and to join hand in hand with the government in achieving stability and promoting regional development. They also urged the

² President U Thein Sein receives UN USG for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-07.pdf> (NLM) 7 December 2012 (p. 1)/
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham discusses closer cooperation with UN – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-05.pdf> (NLM) 5 December 2012 (p.16)/
Speaker of Pyidaungsu, Amyotha Hluttaws holds talks with UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-07.pdf> (NLM) 7 December 2012 (p.16)/
Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker meets UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-07.pdf> (NLM) 7 December 2012 (p.9)/
Psychological support given to victims in Myebon, Pauktaw, Maungtaw and Sittway in Rakhine State – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-07.pdf> (NLM) 7 December 2012 (p. 9)/
Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs - Statement on the Republic of the Union of Myanmar – <http://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/under-secretary-general-humanitarian-affairs-statement-republic-union-myanmar> (Relief Web) 7 December 2012

³ Vice-Chairmen of Union-level Peace-making Committee visits Mongla Special Region (4) – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-06.pdf> (NLM) 6 December 2012 (p.10)/
Minister Without Borders visit Mongla – http://www.english.panglong.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5116:minister-without-borders-visit-mongla&catid=85:politics&Itemid=266 (S.H.A.N.) 3 December 2012

leaders in Panghsan to act in accordance with the 2008 constitution, Article 338, which stipulates that “All the armed forces in the Union shall be under the command of the Defense Services.” Vice Chairman Shauk Min Hlyan (a) Xiao Minliang reiterated that the UWSA would not secede from the Union and for the government to continue its efforts in developing the Wa Region. Cash amounting to Kyats 290 million was presented at the meeting for regional development by the Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay. The meeting marked the first time U Aung Min visited Panghsan since his appointment in May as Minister to the President’s Office.⁴

AUNG SAN SUU KYI APPOINTED AS CHAIR OF COPPER MINE INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

A 30-member investigation commission, headed by Chairperson of the Lower House's Committee for Rule of Law and Tranquility Aung San Suu Kyi has been established to probe into the recent Lapadangaung copper mine project in Monywa, Sagaing region and to decide whether to continue the project. Under Notification No.92/2012 dated 1 December and issued by the Office of the President, the commission has been tasked to investigate a wide range issues including the actual handling of the demonstrations which left 80 injured; if the copper mine project is being implemented according to international standards and norms, the real cause of protest demanding an end to the project and if the project is beneficial to the state and if it should terminate the foreign investment project. The commission is set to submit its findings to the President before 31 December 2012. However two days after, on 3 December, the President’s Office issued a new order in which the 30-member Investigation Commission mandated to investigate the recent demonstrations at the Lapadantaung Copper Mine in Sagaing Region has seen its membership reduced to 16 and several of its mandates re-written. While no reasons have been issued concerning the cutbacks and changes, and under the new announcement the Commission is to submit its interim report to the President by 31 January 2013.⁵(Please see Appendixes A and B for the full texts of Notifications No.92/2012 & No.95/2012).

COPPER MINE INVESTIGATION COMMISSION HOLDS MEETING

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the Investigation Commission for Latpadantaung Copper Mining Project, pointed out the lack of transparency in the past as the cause for the recent demonstrations at the Lapadantaung copper mine and stressed the need for public cooperation and the rule of law to get the answer to the issue in the interests of the State. During the meeting, the Commission Chair Aung San Suu Kyi said that the commission will carry out an investigation into the incident as soon as possible and she will take responsibilities for conducting investigation into what happened at the camp of protestors and matters related to the members of the Sangha. The members of the commission will be divided into three groups to conduct the investigation into the following three issues simultaneously:

- (a) whether the copper mining project adheres to international norms and employ appropriate technology to environmental conservation;
- (b) impacts and profits of the copper mining project on social and natural environments;
- (c) whether the copper mining project will be profitable for the State, people and future generations.

⁴ Union-level Peace-Making Committee holds talks with Panhsan Special Region-2 group – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-07.pdf> (NLM) 7 December 2012 (p.1 & 9)/
Naypyitaw has same message for Wa –

http://www.english.panglong.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5125:naypyitaw-has-same-message-for-wa&catid=85:politics&Itemid=266 (Shan Herald) 5 December 2012

⁵ Formation of Investigation Commission – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-02.pdf> (NLM) 2 December 2012 (p.1 & 7)/
Reconstitution of Investigation Commission – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-04.pdf> (NLM) 4 December 2012 (p. 2)

Besides, the commission will conduct an investigation into other cases to which it is assigned and will release information on its findings.⁶

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CNF DELEGATION LEAVES FOR RANGOON FOR PEACE TALKS

A 20-member Chin National Front (CNF) delegation left Kalembo, Chin State on 4 December, to take part in the second round of union level peace talks with the government from 7 and 8 December in Rangoon the former capital of Burma. The CNF delegation was led by Secretary-General Pu Zing Cung and also included Pu Zing Cung, Pu Thomas Thangnou, Pu Pual Sitha, Dr. Sui Khar, Salai Kipp Kho Lian, Dr. Lian Hmung Sakhong, Pu H.C Ral Hnin, Pu Thang Yen, Pu Zo Tum Hmung, Pu Thang Ning Kee, Pu Bernard L. Chhangte, Colonel Solomon, Salai Thla Hei, Pu Hau Kang, Pu Thawng Za Lian, Pu Ngai Ja Thang, Colonel Than Tun, Major Sang Lian Thang, Major Kha Pawng and Pu Thet Ni. The government side will be headed by U Aung Min, Vice-Chairman of the government Peace-Making Team and Minister at the President's Office. Observers invited to attend the negotiations include Kristine Gould (PACRIM Research Associates, USA), Mr. Yohei Sasakawa (Chairman, Nippon Foundation, Japan), Mr. Yiji Mori (Nippon Foundation, Japan), Ms. Suzuka Yoshida (Nippon Foundation, Japan), Charles Petrie (Myanmar Peace Support Initiative-MPSI), Mai Chin (Shalom Foundation, Yangon) and Salai Bawi Lian Mang (Director, CHRO).

According to CNF spokesperson Dr Sui Khar, discussions of the talks will focus on issues related to Chin nationals, military, development, social and cultural matters, in addition to other necessary points from the first Union-level meeting agreement.

After the second phase of union level peace talks in Rangoon, the CNF is scheduled to hold public consultations with Chin nationals in Rangoon, Kale-Kabaw valleys, Hakha, Falam, Teddim and Than Tlang. According to a CNF statement, the peace talk process is being conducted with a view to achieving peace in Burma on the basis of the six step plans of the United Nationalities Federal Council. The statement further stated that the CNF will progress with its aims and objectives through the peace talk process. Founded on 20 March 1988 following a student-led uprising across the country, the CNF held a preliminary ceasefire meeting with government peace negotiators in January.⁷

MYANMAR SEEKS TO REVIEW FARMLAND LAW

A Myanmar forum revealed that the government wanted to review the 2012 Farmland Law as they found weak points in some of the provisions. "We are planning to review the law during the workshop. Department of Settlements and Land Records is currently handling the plan," Thein Shwe, Collaboration Team for Land Affairs Chairman, said during the national workshop on November 25. The workshop was organized by the Collaboration Team for Land Affairs, the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, as well as the National Economic and Social Advisory Council in Naypyidaw. Experts and officials from the government departments and other NGOs as well as UN agencies participated in the workshop. "There are weak points in the law," Thein Shwe added. "The existing foreign investment law allows investors to buy farmlands freely that may lead to land disputes. And currently, a court cannot settle such land disputes; Land Administration

⁶ Commission holds coordination meeting –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-05.pdf> (NLM) 5 December 2012 (p.16)

⁷ CNF delegation leaves for Rangoon for peace talks –
<http://www.khonumthung.org/?p=1178> (Khonumthung) 3 December 2012/
CNF confirms delegation for Rangoon peace talks –
<http://www.mizzima.com/news/inside-burma/8506-chins-confirm-20-member-delegation-for-rangoon-peace-talks.html>
(Mizzima) 4 December 2012

Committee settles it. That's not fair enough." Thein Shwe's team added that local residents should have their own rights to manage and use their farmlands.⁸

ANALYSIS

The meetings with Wa and National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA) as well as the second round of peace talks with the Chin National Front (CNF) are steps towards national reconciliation in Burma. However, in viewing the nature of the talks with the Wa and NDAA, the government delegation seems to be maintaining and promoting its long standing policy to reign in the various ethnic armies under the Burmese Army's control. However, other ethnic armed groups have expressed that the policy of serving under the control of the Burmese military is unacceptable and thus has become a major issue for discussions during peace talks. It remains to be seen, how the government's Peace-Making Team pursues the path of demilitarization, and more importantly on what the response will be regarding this sensitive issue.

While attempting to bring peace and stability to the country, President Thein Sein has made some head-way by initiating peace talks with the various ethnic armed groups. However, as he strives to move along his reformist agenda, the President has now stumbled on to another major crisis in the form of the Lapandantaung Copper Mine dispute. And in a bid to seek a peaceful resolution to the issue, has entrusted NLD leader and Chairperson of the Lower House's Committee for Rule of Law and Tranquility Aung San Suu Kyi to lead the 30-member Investigation Commission. The move to appoint Aung San Suu Kyi to head the investigation by the President, is being seen by some as testing the waters on the ability and efficiency of the NLD leader. Furthermore, the chance to lead the Commission will provide Aung San Suu Kyi an opportunity not only to show her leadership skills but more importantly on how she deals with China. That being said, investigation commissions have been formed for both the Rakhine State communal unrests in June this year and most recently now to look into the mine disputes in Monywa. One major significance between the two commissions are that, the latter is being led by NLD leader Aung San Suu Kyi and thus, many will hope that her presence and role can be more productive and successful. President Thein Sein on his part, has inherited an array of unresolved issues handed down by pass successive military governments and now has been given the arduous task of resolving them. And thus, under the present circumstances, will need to be given all possible assistance in rebuilding Burma.

⁸ Myanmar seeks to review farmland law, says forum – <http://elevenmyanmar.com/politics/1573-myanmar-seeks-to-review-farmland-law-says-forum> (Eleven News Media) 4 December 2012

APPENDICES

Appendix A:

FORMATION OF INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Notification No. 92/2012
3rd Waxing of Tazaungmon 1374 ME
1 December 2012**

1. "Investigation Commission" is formed with the following persons to go through whether copper mining should be continued and to find out the true situation about the recent containing of protest in Lapadantaung Copper Mining Project in Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| (a) | Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Yangon Region, Kawhmu Township Constituency | |
| (b) | U Lun Thi
Pyithu Hluttaw representative Yangon Region,
Kungyangon Township Constituency | Member |
| (c) | U Than Myint
Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Sagaing Region, Salingyi Township Constituency | Member |
| (d) | Daw Khin San Hlaing
Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Sagaing Region, Pale Township Constituency | Member |
| (e) | U Zaw Myint Pe
Amyotha Hluttaw representative
Mandalay Region, Constituency No. 5 | Member |
| (f) | U Khin Maung Yi
Amyotha Hluttaw representative
Ayeyawady Region, Constituency No.6 | Member |
| (g) | U Aung Kyi Nyunt
Amyotha Hluttaw representative
Magway Region Constituency No.4 | Member |
| (h) | U Khin Maung Swe
Chairman, National Democratic Forces Party | Member |
| (i) | U Myo Nyunt
General Secretary
Democracy and Peace Party | Member |
| (j) | Dr Win Maung
Chairman, Myanmar Environmental Institute | Member |
| (k) | U Kyaw Tint Swe
Ambassador (Retd)
Myanmar Human Rights Commission | Member |
| (l) | U Maung Maung Aye
Senior Consultant on Social Assessment
Myanmar Environmental Institute | Member |
| (m) | U Soe Thein (a) Maung Wuntha
Writer | Member |
| (n) | U Win Htein
Director-General, Mining Department
Ministry of Mines | Member |

(o)	U Myint Swe Director-General, Settlement and Land Records Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	Member
(p)	U Tin Myint Deputy Director-General, General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs	Member
(q)	U Hla Maung Thein Deputy Director-General, Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry	Member
(r)	Dr Daw Kaythi Lwin Acting Rector, University of Technology (Thanlyin), Ministry of Science and Technology	Member
(s)	Dr Daw Marlar Aung Pro-Rector, Yangon East University, Ministry of Education	Member
(t)	U Aung Naing Oo Myanmar Peace Centre	Member
(u)	U Paw Oo Tun (a) Min Ko Naing "88" Generation Students Group	Member
(v)	U Ko Ko Gyi "88" Generation Students Group	Member
(w)	Dr Myint Thein Director, Occupational Health Department, Ministry of Health	Member
(x)	U Nay Oo Deputy Director Sagaing Region General Administration Department	Member
(y)	U Win Kyi Head of Production Department, Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited	Member
(z)	Lt-Col Aung Than Ministry of Defense	Member
(aa)	U Bo Than Kankon village, Kyaukmyat village-tract, Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region	Member
(bb)	U Aung Zaw Oo Wethmay village, Ywarshe village-tract, Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region	Member
(cc)	U Bo Htay Tonywama village, Ton village-tract, Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region	Member
(dd)	U Sit Myaing Myanmar National Human Rights Commission	Secretary

2. The investigation commission will investigate the following cases and submit assessment for ensuring the rule of law and national interest along with recommendations.

- (a) whether the copper mine project adheres to international norms and employ appropriate technologies for environmental conservation;
- (b) impacts and profits of the copper mine project on social and natural environments;
- (c) whether the copper mine project will be profitable for the State;
- (d) causes of protests that demanded the shutdown of the copper mine project;
- (e) review on control of protests and injuries of members of Sangha;
- (f) whether the copper mine project should continue or the foreign investment should be suspended;

- (g) suggestions on development of the country and the rule of law;
- (h) miscellaneous reviews and suggestions of the commission;
3. Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun is responsible for administrative matters of the investigation commission while assuming duties. The President Office and the Sagaing Region Government under the guidance of the Union Minister shall fulfill the security and administrative requirements of the investigation commission in action.
4. The investigation commission shall conduct investigation in accord with code of criminal procedure and evidence act, summoning witnesses, asking for documents and visiting necessary sites. The investigation report shall be submitted to the President by 31 December, 2012.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar⁹

Appendix B:

RECONSTITUTION OF INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Notification No. 95/2012
5th Waxing of Tazaungmon 1374 ME
3 December 2012

1. Regarding the urgent proposal on Lapadantaung Copper Mining Project in Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region submitted in the Pyithu Hluttaw session on 23 November 2012, "Investigation Commission" is reconstituted with the following persons to go through whether copper mining should be continued.
- | | |
|---|-------------|
| a) Daw Aung San Suu Kyi
Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Yangon Region, Kawhmu Township Constituency | Chairperson |
| b) U Lun Thi
Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Yangon Region, Kungyangon Township Constituency | Member |
| c) U Than Myint
Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Sagaing Region, Salingyi Township Constituency | Member |
| d) Daw Khin San Hlaing
Pyithu Hluttaw representative
Sagaing Region, Pale Township Constituency | Member |
| e) U Zaw Myint Pe
Amyotha Hluttaw representative
Mandalay Region, Constituency No. 5 | Member |
| f) U Maung Maung Aye
Senior Consultant on Social Assessment
Myanmar Environmental Institute | Member |
| g) U Win Htein
Director-General
Mining Department, Ministry of Mines | Member |
| h) U Myint Swe
Director-General, Settlement and Land Records
Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation | Member |

⁹ Formation of Investigation Commission –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-02.pdf> (NLM) 2 December 2012 (p.1 & 7)

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| i) U Tin Myint
Deputy Director-General, General Administration
Department, Ministry of Home Affairs | Member |
| j) U Hla Maung Thein
Deputy Director-General, Environmental
Conservation Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry | Member |
| k) Dr Myint Thein
Director, Occupational Health Department,
Ministry of Health | Member |
| l) Lt-Col Aung Than
Ministry of Defense | Member |
| m) U Bo Than
Kankon Village, Kyaukmyat Village-tract
Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region | Member |
| n) U Aung Zaw Oo
Wathmay village, Ywashae Village-tract,
Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region | Member |
| o) U Bo Htay
Tonywama Village, Ton Village-tract
Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region | Member |
| p) U Kyaw Tint Swe
Ambassador (Retired)
Myanmar National Human Rights Commission | Secretary |

2. The investigation commission shall find out the true situation on the following cases and submit assessment for ensuring the rule of law along with comment.

- (a) whether the copper mine project adheres to international norms and employ appropriate technologies for environmental conservation;
- (b) impacts and profits of the copper mine project on social and natural environments;
- (c) whether the copper mine project will be profitable for the State, people and generation;
- (d) suggestions on development of the country and the rule of law;
- (e) regarding the project, facts that should be under investigation deemed by the commission
- (f) general reviews and suggestions of the commission;

3. Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun is responsible for administrative matters of the investigation commission while assuming duties. The President Office and the Sagaing Region Government under the guidance of the Union Minister shall fulfill the security and administrative requirements of the investigation commission in action. Local authoritative organizations are to cooperate with the investigation commission.

4. The investigation commission, if necessary, can assign duties to skilled persons and intellectuals and intelligentsia under the arrangement of the President Office.

5. The investigation commission shall conduct investigation in accord with code of criminal procedure and evidence act, summoning witnesses, asking for documents and visiting necessary sites. The investigation interim-report shall be submitted to the President by 31 January 2013, and works to be continued in accordance with the report.

6. This notification overrides Notification No. (92/2012) dated 1-12-2012 issued by the President Office.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar¹⁰

¹⁰ Reconstitution of Investigation Commission –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-12-04.pdf> (NLM) 4 December 2012 (p. 2)