

POLITICAL MONITOR NO.11

OFFICIAL MEDIA

GOVERNMENT AND KIO HOLD PEACE TALKS

Latest round of peace talks between the government and the KIO was held in the Chinese border town of Shweli (Ruili) from 11-12 March. It was attended by the Union Peace-Making Committee Vice-Chairman U Aung Min and Lt-Gen Myint Soe and the KIO by Standing Central Committee member U Sam Lut Gam. Also present were representatives from the United Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC), Shan State Progress Party (SSPP), Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. Both sides issued a joint statement at the conclusion of the talks, in which they stressed the need to continue peace talks; commencing genuine political talks, reduction of troops in the conflict areas, establishing monitoring offices. *(Please see Appendix A for full statement of the Joint Statement).*¹

VICE PRESIDENT NYAN TUN RECEIVES USAID DELEGATION

Burmese Vice-President Nyan Tun received a delegation led by Dr Rajeev Janardan Shah, Administrator of US Agency for International Development-USAID in Naypyitaw on 8 March and discussed matters on cooperation between the two countries in a wide range of sectors including health, agriculture, education, and humanitarian aid as well as investment opportunities for US companies in Burma. Similarly, the US delegation also met the Speaker of the Lower House discussed matters exchanges between the parliaments of the two countries and poverty eradication programmes in Burma.²

PARLIAMENTARY SPEAKERS RECEIVE JAPANESE SPECIAL ENVOY

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Lower House Speaker Thura Shwe Mann received the Japanese delegation led by the Special Envoy of Japanese Government and Nippon Foundation Chairman Yohei Sasakawa in Naypyitaw. The two sides exchanged views on further promoting amity and cooperation between the two countries and parliaments as well as the national reconsolidation process.³

DANISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS BURMA

A delegation headed by Speaker of the Danish Parliament Mogens Lykketoft called on Lower House Speaker Thura Shwe Mann on 8 March in Naypyitaw. At the meeting, Thura Shwe Mann underscored the crucial role played by parliament in Burma's democratic transition and that it is putting in the fore human rights and democracy in amending and enacting laws. The Danish Speaker welcomed the reform process and achievements made so far and stressed the need to promote freedom of expression and press in realizing democracy in the country. The two speakers also pledged to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two parliaments.⁴

¹ Peace talks between the Union Peace-Making Committee and KIO held – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 16)

² Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Administrator of USAID delegation – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/93newsn.pdf> (NLM) 9 March 2013 (p. 16)/ Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Speaker of the Danish Parliament and party – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/93newsn.pdf> (NLM) 9 March 2013 (p. 8)

³ Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives Special envoy of Japanese government – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/123newsn.pdf> (NLM) 12 March 2013 (p. 9)/ Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Nippon Foundation Chairman and UN guests – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 10)

⁴ Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Speaker of the Danish Parliament and party – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/93newsn.pdf> (NLM) 9 March 2013 (p. 8)

HLUTTAW SESSIONS – Highlights

Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) sessions

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) held its 24th day meeting on 8th March. During the session, the following bills, key issues were raised and discussed:

- U Kyaw Myint of Myanaung Constituency (NLD) asked **if the government had plans to provide financial assistance to help poor farmers.** Deputy Minister for Agricultural and Irrigation U Ohn Than replied that **farming and land reclamation would be allowed in line with the existing Farm Land Laws, Rules and Regulations and Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Laws and as stipulated in the regulations prescribed by respective Region/State governments, and to provide all possible means of assistance required.**
- U Kyaw Naing Htay of Indaw Constituency (USDP) submitted the proposal on **the Bill amending the Unlawful Association Act (India Act XIV, 1908);**
- **The Bill revoking State Crops Marketing Board Act** was approved by the session.⁵

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) held its 25th day meeting on 12th March. During the session, the following key issue was raised and discussed:

- U Htay Oo of Hinthada Constituency (USDP) raised the question regarding the **on-going labour dispute between Burmese/Myanmar workers and the CMJ Garment Company in Jordan.** In responding the Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security Daw Win Maw Tun said that **the CMJ Company had provided increased the current payment for Burmese workers by 6 per cent, and a total of 2200 Burmese workers had returned to work after negotiations between Burmese Embassy officials and Jordanian government representatives.** She also added that **a nine-point Labour Migration Policy has been adopted to provide social security to Burmese migrant workers and plans are now underway to assign labour attaches in Thailand and Korea to assist Burmese migrant workers.**⁶

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) held its 26th day meeting on 13th March. During the session, the following key issue was raised and discussed:

- U Phyo Min Thein of Hlegu constituency (NLD) asked **there is a plan to buy electric power from foreign countries to meet the local consumption.** In responding, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo the Ministry had **no plans to buy electric power from foreign countries to supply to the people sufficiently as it is required to inject a huge investment into building power grids and sub-power stations to link with grid of foreign countries.** However, local authorities in the border regions had been granted permission to buy from Thailand to supply power areas in Taninthayi Region, Kayin State and Tachilek in Shan State (East);
- U Aye Pe of Cocogyun constituency (USDP) raised the question on the **project for maintenance and improvement of the Ayeyawady River.** The Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein said that the **Department of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems of the Ministry and SBE nv Engineering Co Ltd from Belgium had signed an MoU for the maintenance and improvement of the river on 11 Feb, 2013 and that it will take six months to implement the project costing 800,000 euros and to be jointly financed by the Flemish State Government and Flanders SBE company.** The MOU would help not only improve the Ayeyawady River

⁵ University of Fisheries Sciences to be established: Dy Livestock and Fisheries Minister – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/93newsn.pdf> (NLM) 9 March 2013 (p. 9)

⁶ Increase in payment, bonus settle dispute between Myanmar workers, Jordan garment factory – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 9)

system but also bring benefits to hydro power production, irrigation, tourism and navigation in the country, he said.⁷

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) held its 27th day meeting on 14th March. During the session, the following key issue was raised and discussed:

- U Thaug Han of Yinmabin Constituency asked if there are plans **implement farmland registration for the issuance of farmland operation permit under existing laws**. Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said **measures would be taken under the supervision of respective farmland management committees to issue permit and the central farmland management committee would make constant coordination with the respective committees**. He also stated that **currently 6.89 millions of farmland operation application forms had been distributed to farmers and dissemination of information regarding the matter was being carried out accordingly**.⁸

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) held its 28th day meeting on 15th March. During the session, the **Pyithu Hluttaw assembly unanimously approved the motion on formation of committee and commissions to review the 2008 constitution**.

- Thura U Aye Myint of Wetlet Constituency (USDP) tabled the motion urging both the **Pyithu Hluttaw and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to form committee and commission comprising law experts and intellectuals to review the 2008 constitution so that it can be in conformity with the current situation of the country due to the on-going reforming process**. U Ye Tun of Hsipaw Constituency (SNDP) and U Lwin Oo of Thanlyin Constituency (USDP) seconded the motion and stated that it reflected the altruistic will of the ruling party.
- U Win Swe of Nyaungshwe Constituency (INDP), asked **how the funding for conservation of Inlay Lake project was being spent**. In responding, Deputy Minister Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin of Environmental Conservation and Forestry Ministry replied that **as of 1 January, 2012, measures have been taken for projects such as environmental and forest conservation, protection of water and soil degradation, agriculture, livestock breeding and fishery, development of socio-economy as part of efforts for conservation of Inlay Lake and the project would end on 31 December, 2013. US\$ 600,000 under the programme of UNDP and US \$2 million by Norwegian government totalling US \$2.6 million have been injected into the projects**.⁹

HLUTTAW SESSIONS – Highlights

Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) sessions

The 6th Regular Session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) held its 24th day meeting on 8th March. During the session the key issue discussed included the following:

- Dr Htay Win of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (5) (USDP) proposed **the Union government to provide free medical service to the poor as part of poverty alleviation scheme amidst the increasing number of health projects in country**. U Nyunt Hlaing of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (4) (USDP) also supported the proposal and said that, **“the poor face a great deal of difficulties in receiving medical treatment and sometimes, financial difficulties have**

⁷ No plans to buy, supply power due to huge investment –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/143newsn.pdf> (NLM) 14 March 2013 (p. 9)

⁸ Farmland registration process gathering pace: Dy A & I Minister –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docsMA2013/NLM2013-03-15.pdf> (NLM) 15 March 2013 (p. 9)

⁹ Pyithu Hluttaw approves motion on reviewing 2008 constitution, US\$ 2.6 million injected into saving Inlay Lake –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docsMA2013/NLM2013-03-16.pdf> (NLM) 16 March 2013 (p. 9)

unnecessarily led to loss of lives and therefore the Ministry should provide free health care service.¹⁰

The 6th Regular Session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) held its 25th day meeting on 12th March. During the session the key issue discussed included the following:

- Four legislators discussed points stated in **By-laws of ward/village-tract Administration Law**. Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Thet Naing Oo of Bago Region Constituency No (6) (USDP) also stated that **the recent election process at the Ward and Village-tract levels did not follow the procedure as prescribed in the rules and regulations of the By-laws but chose the method to elect the heads of Wards and Villages-tracts through secret ballot system of voting.**¹¹

The 6th Regular Session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) held its 26th day meeting on 13th March. During the session the key issue discussed included the following:

- Six lawmakers took part in the discussions on the proposal of U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (6) (USDP) urged all **stakeholders including three pillars of the State that can shape the future of the nation to avoid the situations that could lead the country into the deviation from the right track and to put the country's sole aim at the forefront for the sake of the nation and its people. In their discussions, MPs acknowledged the need to be well-equipped in handling protests; stressed the need of strict adherence to the existing laws and the need for all involved all to be on the right track to democracy.**¹²

The 6th Regular Session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) held its 27th day meeting on 14th March. During the session the key issue discussed included the following:

- Four representatives discussed and seconded the motion submitted by U Saw Taw Pa Le of Kayin State Constituency No. 7 (KPP) **urging the government to allow local people to work in lands which are included in the reserve and protective forest reserves designated by the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry. The Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry, U Win Tun** requested the session **to consider the motion and put it on record the ministry is coordinating works with relevant ministries concerned to allow the farmers to work on the land in the reserve areas legally for their livelihood. The Hluttaw decided to put the motion to a record.**¹³

The 6th Regular Session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) held its 28th day meeting on 15th March. During the session the key issue discussed included the following:

- U Paw Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency (9) (CPP) urged and recommended the Union government **to grant autonomy to region/state governments in managing religious affairs as the most effective way in fulfilling the requirements to meet fundamental rights and responsibilities as vested in the Constitution.** Similarly, U Kham Sun Meng of Chin State Constituency (5) (USDP) also supported MP Paw Lyan Lwin's proposal for granting autonomy to region/state governments in managing religious affairs in accordance with the Constitution. In responding to the motion a member of the Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee, said **the national races affairs committees of the both Hluttaws and Internal Peace-making committees had made field trips to 14 regions and states from May to June and discussed with**

¹⁰ MP calls for free health care service for the poor –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/93newsn.pdf> (NLM) 9 March 2013 (p. 9)

¹¹ Four legislators hold discussions on bylaws of ward/village-tract Administration Law –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 9)

¹² Health Ministry agrees with legal enactment allowing second-degree related donors in kidney transplantation –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/143newsn.pdf> (NLM) 14 March 2013 (p. 9)

¹³ Amyotha Hluttaw adopts motions to inspect super structures suffered from Nov-2012 quake, to upgrade navigational aids at airports –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docsMA2013/NLM2013-03-15.pdf> (NLM) 15 March 2013 (p. 9)

local people who spoke of difficulties and undesirable delays as regards religious affairs. The joint committee members from both the Upper and Lower Houses agreed to put forward the case to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The Hluttaw approved to discuss his proposal.¹⁴

HLUTTAW SESSIONS – Highlights

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held its 18th day meeting on 11th March. During the session two issues related to the Myanmar Citizens Investment Bill and collecting of Census in 2014 were discussed.

- With regard to **the Myanmar Citizens Investment Bill**, the session was in favour of the bill and MP U Sai Paung Nap of Shan State constituency No (12) (WDP) said that the **bill would be of great benefit to national race entrepreneurs while also providing mutual benefit between local and foreign investors would be guaranteed by the bill**;
- Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi made clarifications on **ongoing Moe Pwint Plans of the ministry and arrangements being made for upcoming task of census-taking 2014**. He explained that the plan had covered all states and regions as well as hard-to reach regions of national races, issuing 3079094 citizenship scrutiny cards during the period of one year and nine months up to Moe Pwint (4) plan. It was planned to start Moe Pwint Plan-5 in April 2013 and more plans would be carried out, he added. He pointed out the role of ward administrators in filling necessary documents ahead of the plans. The minister shared his belief that the ministry was making great strides in Moe Pwint Plans to be able to fulfil the desire of the people. **Regarding the upcoming nationwide census will commence on 30 March to 11 April 2014 and stressed the need for mass participation of all concerned.**¹⁵

The 6th Regular Session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held its 19th day meeting on 12th March. During the session the following issues were raised and answered:

- Thura U Aung Ko of Kanpetlet Constituency (USDP) called **for formation of committees and commissions comprising retired personnel and towns-elders with the aim of ensuring a surge in collecting tax revenue that repeated checks and urge to collect tax fully are needed in order not to face a shortfall in tax revenue. Lawmakers proposed changes to the State's taxation structures, submitting proposals urging the Union government to make changes in taxation structures and effective measures for fully tax revenue collection at the session.** Dr Banyar Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No (7) (AMRDP) also supported the motion.¹⁶

MINE INVESTIGATION COMMISSION HOLDS MEETING

The investigation commission mandated to probe the Latpadaungtaung Mine Protests held its sixth meeting on 10 March in Naypyitaw. At the meeting, the participants clarified and discussed the commission's findings, reviews and suggestions included in its final report which is to be submitted to the President. *(Please see Appendix B full text of Press Release issued by the Investigation Commission).*¹⁷

¹⁴ MP calls for granting autonomy to region/state governments as to religious affairs – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docsMA2013/NLM2013-03-16.pdf> (NLM) 16 March 2013 (p. 9)

¹⁵ Mass participation, collaborative efforts of departments concerned is sine qua non for success of nation-wide census-taking process: Union Minister – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/123newsn.pdf> (NLM) 12 March 2013 (p. 16)

¹⁶ Lawmakers propose to make changes in taxation structure – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 9)

¹⁷ Investigation Commission: Press Release 4/2013 – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/123newsn.pdf> (NLM) 12 March 2013 (p.1)

15-MEMBER COMMITTEE FORMED TO IMPLEMENT MINE REPORT FINDINGS

A 15-member committee headed by the Minister at the President's Office U Hla Tun has been formed to implement the findings from the report of Investigation Commission on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project in Salingyi Township of Monywa District in Sagaing Region. The committee also held its first work coordination meeting 12 March to discuss on-going tasks as well as future activities regarding the mine project in Latpadaungtaung. In responding to the final report of the Investigation Commission on the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project, Myanmar Economic Holdings Co Ltd (MEHCL) issued a Press Statement stating that MEHCL and its partner Wanbao Company will take on board the recommendations of the report and that future activities of the mine project will be done in accordance and under supervision of the relevant authorities. *(Please see Appendix C and D full text of the Notification on the Formation of the Implementation Committee and Press Release issued by the MEHCL)*¹⁸

UNOFFICIAL MEDIA

THEIN SEIN TO HAND OVER USDP CHAIR, NO DATE SET

Bowing to the constitution, President U Thein Sein is to hand over leadership of the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), to its current vice chairman and Speaker of the (Pyithu Hluttaw) Lower House, Thura U Shwe Mann, though no date has been set. According to a Thura U Aung Ko, a member of the CEC of the party, the election of Thein Sein as party chair in October 2012 has come under criticism on the grounds that it appeared to infringe the constitution and thus the chairmanship will be handed to Thura Shwe Mann. Aung Ko also added by saying that "the president chairs USDP, though is not involved in the party's activities due to the constitutional restrictions and therefore he (the president) will give up the chair at an appropriate time."¹⁹

LITTLE CHANGE IN NLD AS OLD GUARD STANDS FIRM

The National League for Democracy (NLD) held its inaugural congress in Yangon from 8 to 10 March and re-elected its leader Aung San Suu Kyi as party president. At the meeting, the NLD re-organized its central executive committee (CEC) with old and new members appointed at a ratio of 3:1. New faces elected to the CEC include - Aung Soe, Dr. Myo Aung, Phyu Phyu Thinn and Zo Bwae while five Arakanese NLD members were also voted into the body. Suu Kyi, who was re-elected as president of the party at the congress, said that the selection of new members was based on three main principles.

- previous relationship with the party;
- members must have adequate capacity;
- new members and ethnic members should be selected and appointed.

Suu Kyi also said that there will be specific changes in party policies in keeping with the domestic political landscape. "The party must work under the new and changeable political landscape. In the past, our approach was that of an opposition party. But now the party has to have a constructive approach," she said. The first meeting of the new CEC is expected to be held in after April 8 and is will discuss specific responsibilities of CEC members and preparations for the elections in 2015.²⁰

¹⁸ Committee for Implementation of report of Investigation Commission on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project holds work coordination meeting –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 7)/

Myanma Economic Holdings Co Ltd issues press release on report of Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 7)

¹⁹ Thein Sein to hand over USDP chair, no date set –

<http://www.mmtimes.com/index.php/national-news/4595-president-to-hand-over-usdp-chair-in-future.html> (Myanmar Times) 11 March 2013

²⁰ Little change in NLD as old guard stands firm –

<http://mizzima.com/news/inside-burma/9031-little-change-in-nld-as-old-guard-stands-firm.html> (Mizzima) 11 March

NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY FOR A THIRD POLITICAL PARTY IN MYANMAR: FEDERATED UNION PARTY

Negotiations are taking place to form a third political party that would challenge the dominance of the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and the National League for Democracy (NLD). The new party would be a coalition of ethnic parties, and would be ready to fight the 2015 elections, says the chairman of the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party, Dr Aye Maung. "Our new strategy will bring about a political party. We are in negotiation," he said. The new grouping, to be named the "Federated Union Party", would field candidates all over the country, he said. "The suggestion is that we will have to enter the fray if two big parties run in ethnic constituencies," he said. The USDP and NLD should avoid running in ethnic-minority constituencies if they really want to secure national unity, the ethnic-based National Brotherhood Federation said in their manifesto released on March 2. "This manifesto was adopted by the majority, not by any party or individual," said Shan Nationalities Democratic Party's Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Muse township U Sai Pho Aung.²¹

ANALYSIS

With little or no change in the leadership of the NLD, the acceptance by Burma's parliament to set up a commission to review the 2008 constitution has in a way provided welcome news for the democratic reform process in the country. It is indeed timely for those who have long urged for a review as well as amending the current constitution due to its undemocratic nature. However, the manner of the review process remains unclear. At the same time, it is also important to note that unravelling the constitution in its entirety or partially will neither be easy nor meet the expectations of all stakeholders. Under such circumstances, the role to be taken by parliament in leading the review process will provide Burmese parliamentarians the opportunity to prove their democratic credentials in not only shaping the future of the country but also serving its people.

2013 /

5 Arakanese members elected as central committee member posts of NLD –

<http://www.narinjara.com/main/index.php/5-arakanese-members-elected-as-central-committee-member-posts-of-nld/> (Narinjara) 12 March 2013

²¹ Negotiations underway for a third political party in Myanmar: Federated Union Party –

www.mmtimes.com/index.php/national-news/4593-third-major-political-party-being-planned.html (Myanmar Times) 11 March 2013)

Appendix A:

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT PEACE-MAKING COMMITTEE AND KIO

1. Talks between the Union Peace-Making Committee led by Vice-Chairman of the Committee Union Minister U Aung Min and Lt-Gen Myint Soe and members and KIO delegation led by KIO Standing Central Committee member U Swan Lut Gam were held at Shweli of the People's Republic of China on 11-12 March.
2. It was attended by four from United Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC), two from SSPP, two from RCSS, two from NDAA, four from PCG and Minister-Counselor Mr Wang Zongying from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC and two from the PRC as observers.
3. Both sides held a cordial discussion and have reached the following agreements.
 - (a) To work till both sides reach the ceasefire based on mutual understanding, respect and trust for starting genuine political talks.
 - (b) To continue making coordination for both troops in the conflict areas as the battles could be reduced as a result of the 4-Feb talks and to issue necessary directives and orders to be applied to basic level troops and respective troops of both sides.
 - (c) To open Coordination and Monitoring Offices if necessary so as to make field trips and monitor the front lines and to make close coordination.
 - (d) To continue to implement the agreements that reached on 4 February 2013 and 11-12 March 2013.
 - (e) To hold the next talks by 10 April, 2013.
 - (f) To continue making step-by-step coordination for holding country-wide genuine political talks.

12 March, 2013
Shweli.

As cease-fire process commences, the Union Government will accelerate development and rehabilitation tasks in Kachin State.²²

Appendix B:

INVESTIGATION COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Investigation Commission

Press Release 4/2013

14th Waning of Tabodwe 1374 ME, (11 March, 2013)

1. The sixth meeting of the investigation commission was held at 1.00 am today at I-12 Building in the Hluttaw complex. During the meeting, the participants of the meeting clarified and discussed the commission's undertakings, findings, reviews and suggestions included in its final report on the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine project.
2. Regarding the undertakings and findings, the investigation commission issued the press release No. 1/2012 on 4 December, 2012, the press release No. 2/2012 on 15 December, 2012, the press release No. 3/2012 on 21 December, 2012, the press release No. 4/2012 on 26 December, 2012, the press release No. 1/2013 on 11 January, 2013, the press release 2/2013 on 19 January, 2013 and the press release No. 3/2013 on 9 February, 2013 respectively. The investigation commission sent its provisional report on the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project to the President on 19 January, 2013.
3. The Chairperson and Secretary of the investigation commission sent the final report of the commission to the President at 4.30 pm today.

²² Peace talks between the Union Peace-Making Committee and KIO held – <http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 16)

Appendix C:

NOTIFICATION ON FORMATION OF COMMITTEE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF COPPER MINE PROJECT

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office**

Notification No. 28/2013

14th Waning of Tabodwe 1374 ME, (11 March 2013)

**Formation of Committee for implementation of the report of Investigation Commission on
Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project**

Aimed at implementing the report of Investigation Commission on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project in Salingyi Township of Monywa District in Sagaing Region, a committee to implement the report of investigation commission on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project has been formed as follow:-

1. U Hla Tun	Minister Ministry at the President Office (6)	-	Chairman
2. U Tha Aye	Chief Minister Sagaing Region	-	Vice-Chairman
3. Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo	Adjutant-General	-	Vice-Chairman
4. Lt-Gen Ko Ko	Union Minister Ministry of Home Affairs	-	Member
5. U Win Tun	Union Minister Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry	-	Member
6. Dr Myint Aung	Union Minister Ministry of Mines	-	Member
7. U Soe Win	Deputy Minister Ministry of Religious Affairs	-	Member
8. U Ohn Than	Deputy Minister Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	-	Member
9. U Myo Aung	Deputy Minister Ministry of Industry	-	Member
10. U Win Htein	Director-General Ministry of Mines	-	Member
11. Dr Aung Tun Thet	Myanmar Investment Commission Member	-	Member
12. U Maung Maung Tint	Project Director Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited	-	Member
13. Mr. Geng Yi	MD Myanmar Wenbao Company	-	Member
14. U Thant Shin	Deputy Minister Ministry at the President Office (1)	-	Secretary
15. U Tin Myint	Deputy Director-General General Administration Department	-	Joint Secretary

**Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar.²⁴**

²³ Investigation Commission: Press Release 4/2013 –
<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newspaper/123newsn.pdf> (NLM) 12 March 2013 (p.1)

Appendix D:

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY MEHCL ON REPORT OF LATPADAUNGTANG COPPER MINE PROJECT

1. The report of the Investigation Commission on the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project in Sarlingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region, was announced on 11 March, 2013.
2. Moreover, to implement the report of the Investigation Commission, the President Office issued a notification on 11 March, 2013, on formation of a committee to implement the report the Investigation Commission on the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project.
3. Myanmar Economic Holdings Co Ltd shall act on suggestions about land compensations, land reclamation, amending the contract signed between Myanmar Economic Holdings Co Ltd and Wanbao Company, getting international standard certificates for issues related to environmental conservation, production and work site health care and safety, bringing benefits to local people, creating job opportunities and regional development and Sulphuric Acid Plant in accordance with the rules and regulations of ministries and MEH Co Ltd shall also hire foreign expertise companies meeting international standard to carry out the measures systematically.
4. Under the closely supervision of Sagaing Region Government and in accordance with the directives of the committee for implementing the report of the Investigation Commission, the MEH Co Ltd shall take the measures.

Myanmar Economic Holdings Co Ltd
12 March 2013.²⁵

²⁴ Formation of Committee for implementation of the report of Investigation Commission on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/123newsn.pdf> (NLM) 12 March 2013 (p.1)

²⁵ Myanmar Economic Holdings Co Ltd issues press release on report of Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project –

<http://www.mrtv3.net.mm/newpaper/133newsn.pdf> (NLM) 13 March 2013 (p. 7)