

POLITICAL MONITOR NO. 27

OFFICIAL MEDIA

TOP CHINESE LEGISLATOR WU BANGGUO MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT

China's top legislator and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC) Wu Bangguo arrived in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 September for a 4-day official visit. He met President Thein Sein on 14 September and urged the further strengthening of the strategic partnership between the two countries as well as bilateral economic and trade cooperation, and that China will continue to encourage its corporations to expand their investments and positively participate in the construction of Burma's domestic economy. The two leaders also attended a ceremony to celebrate the signing of several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) on economic and technological cooperation between China and Burma in the health, education, agriculture sectors and as well as a loan agreement for several hydropower projects. Chairman Wu also met Upper House Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Lower House Speaker Thura Shwe Mann and several Hluttaw representatives where they discussed the promotion of ties between the two parliaments as well as enhancing bilateral trade and economic ties.¹

BURMESE PEACE NEGOTIATORS DISCUSS PEACE PROCESS WITH KEY ACTORS FROM INDONESIA AND PHILIPPINE PEACE PROCESSES

In a discussion organized by the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Naypyitaw on 11 September, members of the Government's Peace-Making Work Committee, including the government's key negotiator Minister U Aung Min, exchanged views with key actors who took part in the peace process and conflict settlement in Indonesia and the Philippines. The visiting joint-delegation shared their experience in dealing with insurgencies in the southern Philippine province of Mindanao, as well as the Helsinki peace talks which led to the signing of the Aceh Peace Agreement. The Burmese negotiators said that the country would avoid past wrong acts more appropriately as it has learnt from experience, wrongs and success in peace processes of other countries, and that Burma is in critical need of international support and assistance for its peace process. The Presidential Adviser on the Philippine peace process Secretary Teresita Quintos Deles said she was satisfied with the Burmese peace process and that there are some similar cases from which lessons can be drawn. Former Indonesian President Muhammad Jusuf Kalla added that conflict settlement and peacemaking are in urgent need for political stability, economic development and socio-economic development of citizens. Asia Office Regional Director of HD Centre Micheal Vatikiotis said it would continue its active role in support of Burma's peace process.²

¹ Visit of PRC delegation to Myanmar contributes to continued maintenance of long-lasting friendly ties fostered by leaders of two countries –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-15.pdf> (NLM) 15 September 2012 (p. 1) /

President U Thein Sein, Chairman of Standing Committee of National People's Congress Mr. Wu Bangguo attend ceremony to sign bilateral agreement –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-15.pdf> (NLM) 15 September 2012 (p. 1) /

Sino-Myanmar friendship would contribute to national unity –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-14.pdf> (NLM) 14 September 2012 (p. 16) /

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw receives Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of PRC –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-14.pdf> (NLM) 14 September 2012 (p. 1) /

Hluttaw representatives led by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann hold discussions with Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of PRC Mr Wu Bangguo and party -

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-14.pdf> (NLM) 14 September 2012 (p. 16) /

China's top legislator meets Myanmar president to promote bilateral ties -

http://english.gov.cn/2012-09/14/content_2225205.htm (GOV.cn) 14 September 2012

² Views on Myanmar's peace process exchanged between Myanmar and Indonesia, Philippines –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-10.pdf> (NLM) 10 September 2012 (p. 1)

The participants included Chairman of Indonesia Red Cross and former Vice-President Jusuf Kalla, former Indonesian Commander-in-Chief Endriartono Sutarto, former Human Rights and Judicial Affairs Minister Hamid Awaludin (Indonesia), Presidential Adviser on peace process of the Philippines Teresita Quintos Deles, Chief of Staff (Retd) Alexander Yano, Professor Mariam Coronel Ferrer, Presidential Advisor Alma Evangelista from the Philippines. The members of the Government's Peace-making work Committee included Union Ministers U Soe Thein, U Aung Min, U

PRESIDENT MEETS UNSG'S SPECIAL ADVISER NAMBIAR, DISCUSS INT'L ASSISTANCE & OBSERVERS FOR RAKHINE STATE

The United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Myanmar Vijay Nambiar met President Thein Sein on 14 September in Nay Pyi Taw to discuss socio-economic development projects, efforts to meet the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDG). They also discussed assistance to Rakhine State in cooperation with UN agencies and arrangements for international observers from Turkey, Indonesia, US and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to assess the situation there, as well as the government's efforts for security and the rule of law in order to prevent the reoccurrence of such incidents and measures to rehabilitate livelihoods, health and shelter of the victims.³

INVESTIGATION COMMISSION CONDUCTS TOUR OF RAKHINE STATE

The government commission mandated to probe the recent communal unrests in Arakan (Rakhine) State visited the region from 7 to 12 September. It met victims from Buddhist and Muslim communities, local residents, government officials and those working for NGOs and INGOs and also toured villages and camps in Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, Buthidaung and Pauktaw townships which had been affected by the unrests. Officials from Rakhine State Government briefed the chairman and members of the commission on the loss and damages caused during the in riots and the relief and rehabilitation arrangements for the victims being implemented. Commission Chairman Dr Myo Myint said to the local people they met that the aim of the trip is to uncover the truth regarding the riots and to provide suggestions to promote the interests of those living in the region.

The 27-member commission was formed on 17 August and includes political leaders, former political prisoners, opposition leaders, Muslim and Buddhist religious leaders. It will compile its findings regarding the causes of the May and June riots and submit its recommendations to the President by the end of November.⁴

US DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY OF STATE JOSEPH YUN VISITS RAKHINE STATE

A delegation led by US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Southeast Asia and Pacific Affairs Joseph Yun arrived in the Rakhine State capital Sittway on 7 September and met with the Rakhine State Chief Minister and other local government officials. The delegation was briefed on the on-going relief efforts and assistance provided to the victims as well as rehabilitation measures taken by the government in close cooperation with local people, UN agencies and the international community. The US delegation highlighted the need to address the challenges resulting from the aftermath of the recent communal violence and to find ways to prevent further outbreaks from occurring. It also visited villages and relief camps where it met locals from both the Buddhist and Muslim communities and discussed how the US and international community could assist in providing long-term recovery efforts in Rakhine State.⁵

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES HEADS OF UNION LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS AND NEW CABINET MEMBERS AT SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

The newly appointed Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Union Auditor-General took their oaths-of-office at a ceremony on 10 September in Naypyitaw attended by President Thein Sein, Vice-President Nyan Tun, Dr. Sai Mauk Kham and senior government officials. In his speech, the President called on the new cabinet members to adhere to existing laws and regulations in carrying out their duties, to avoid red tape that causes unnecessary delays and to avoid corruption. He also urged them to avoid repeating past mistakes and that it was crucial to understand the policies of the

Khin Yi, U Ohn Myint, U Than Htay and Dr. Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister U Aung Thein, and Colonel Kyaw Soe Win of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Office.

³ President U Thein Sein meets UNSG's Special Adviser on Myanmar Mr Vijay Nambiar – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-14.pdf> (NLM) 14 September 2012 (p. 1)

⁴ Investigation commission to enquire firm evidence in Rakhine State – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-09.pdf> (NLM) 9 September 2012 (p. 6) / Investigation Commission probes into incident in Rakhine State – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-14.pdf> (NLM) 14 September 2012 (p. 8)

⁵ Union Border Affairs Minister, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State observe objective conditions of Rakhine State – <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-10.pdf> (NLM) 10 September 2012 (p. 16)

state, the objectives of the government and the duties of the respective ministries and to discharge them honestly and earnestly.⁶ (Please see Appendixes A-F for the full text of President's speech and the notifications).

HLUTTAW SESSIONS – Highlights

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Hluttaw) Session

The 4th Regular Session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Hluttaw) held its 13th and final meeting on 7 September. Five bills were approved and three proposals were discussed and approved. A new Vice-President was elected, and the appointments of 13 Union level officials including Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, Auditor-General U Thein Htaik and 10 other Union Ministers as well as Union Election Commission member U Win Ko were announced and they then took their oaths-of-office.⁷

LOWER HOUSE SPEAKER ADDRESSES RULE OF LAW COMMITTEE

Lower House Speaker Thura Shwe Mann addressed a meeting of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Rule of Law and Tranquillity Committee and legal experts on 8 September. He stated that the rule of law is crucial to the State and if existing laws did not serve the interests of the country and its citizens they should be amended or revoked. He added that elected lawmakers, government institutions and civil servants should adhere to existing laws and only then would the rule of law be achieved. Committee Chairperson Aung San Suu Kyi said it is difficult to explain the functions of the committee, and that law and equality are not enough to define the meaning of the rule of law. She said there will only be rule of law when each and every citizen believes that the law can their personal security and freedom. She added that the Committee would coordinate with concerned departments to find out what can and should be done to take practical steps to ensure the rule of law.⁸

UNOFFICIAL MEDIA

GOVERNMENT INVITES KIO TO NAPYITAW FOR TALKS

According to chief peace negotiator Minister U Aung Min, President Thein Sein would like the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) to hold its next round of peace talks with the government in Naypyidaw, as efforts to agree on a location in the northern region or in China have stalled. The Minister said he had proposed to the Kachin leadership that the next round of negotiations be held in the Burmese capital, but that the KIO had yet to respond. He added that it is difficult to agree on a safe venue in Kachin State and that the government's top representative General Soe Win would not go across the Chinese border to Ruili (Shweli) for talks. Proposals by the government to hold peace talks in Bhamo and Muse townships have been rejected by the KIO, preferring that they be held in Loijay a township closer to the KIO-controlled area. Aung Min said that he had met KIO leaders three times, and that he believed he had been successful in establishing a working dialog. "I have already solved many political and economic issues with the Kachins," he said. "However, we have not solved the military problem. I personally do not have power within the army. This part has to be dealt with by the military leaders from both sides." Aung Min has been involved in fruitful negotiations with no less than 11 ethnic armed groups; however, attempts to reconcile differences

⁶ President U Thein Sein addresses heads of Union level organizations, members of Union Government / Persons to be appointed as deputy ministers make affirmation before the President –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-11.pdf> (NLM) 11 September 2012 (p. 1 & 7) /

Being individuals who are responsible and accountable to particular organizations, we should manage ourselves and our organizations well –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-11.pdf> (NLM) 11 September 2012 (p. 1 & 7)

Those present included Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, the Chief Justice of the Union, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, the Chairman of Union Election Commission, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Union Ministers, the Auditor-General of the Union, the Chairman of Union Civil Services Board, deputy ministers and those who are to be appointed as deputy ministers.

⁷ Five bills approved at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-08.pdf> (NLM) 8 September 2012 (p. 2)

⁸ Rule of Law and Tranquillity Committee to be beneficial to both legislature and country: Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-09.pdf> (NLM) 9 September 2012 (p. 16 & 7)

with the KIO have proved elusive. He has also rejected reported allegations that the Burmese army was refusing, on occasion, to obey instructions from the President with regard to ceasing hostilities in the KIO areas. "The situation in Kachin State is very complicated and that is why it needs to be solved on step-by-step basis" said Aung Min.⁹

ETHNIC COUNCIL CALLS ON GROUPS TO SUSPEND TALKS WITH GOV'T, BURMESE ARMY ATTACKS IN KACHIN STATE CONTINUE

The Ethnic Nationalities Council (ENC) has urged ethnic armed groups currently holding peace-talks with the government to suspend their negotiations if the Burmese army continues to attack the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) in northern Burma. At the conclusion of ENC's 3rd annual meeting on the Thai-Burma border on 11 September, the group released a 7-point statement expressing its concern over the ongoing fighting in Burma's ethnic regions including northern Burma's Kachin state and called on the government to honour the ceasefire agreements they've signed. It also condemned the government for preventing international humanitarian aid from reaching those displaced by the fighting which has displaced more than 90,000 people. ENC Secretary-General Dr. Sui Khar said that ENC leaders also agreed that ethnic groups should discuss setting up an ethnic conference in Burma similar to the Panglong Conference before reaching out to the government for peace talks. The ENC was formed in 2001 by Chin, Kachin, Rakhine (Arakan), Shan, Mon and Karen ethnic organizations.¹⁰ *(Please see Appendix G for the full text statement).*

GOVERNMENT & OIC SIGN AGREEMENT TO OPEN HUMANITARIAN AID OFFICE

The Burmese government and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) signed an agreement on 11 September to create an office in Yangon for the provision of humanitarian aid. According to the OIC, a fact-finding mission arrived in Burma on 5 September for 10 days to investigate the recent violence against Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State. They signed the agreement and also met several government officials including the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Border Affairs, Social Welfare and Interior and also conducted field visits to the sites for the displaced. OIC Spokesperson Ambassador Tariq Bakheet said that this agreement "is a positive development which we appreciate and welcome. The developments come within the continued actions by the OIC to take practical measures in implementing the resolutions of the Summit held in Mekkah last August."¹¹

88-GENERATION STUDENT'S GROUP & KNPP TO CREATE "UNION GOVERNMENT"

88-Generation Student Group leaders and the Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) have said that they will cooperate to create a "genuine Union" in which all ethnic nationalities will have the power to create their own destinies. Following a meeting in Loikaw on 11 September, where they met to discuss the current political situation in Burma, they issued a 6-point joint-statement calling for genuine peace talks and urging the government to stop all fighting in Kachin State as soon as possible. They also expressed their willingness to work with other groups alike in promoting democracy. 88-Generation leader Mya Aye said the group is keen for the creation of a genuine Union that would guarantee freedom, justice and equality among all nationalities. The meeting is the first between the 88-Generation students group and the KNPP, which agreed to a cease-fire with the Karenni State government on 7 March 2012. Since many 88-Generation student leaders were released from prison in 2012, they have worked to support peace, an open civil society and to help solve problems regarding unlawful land confiscation. They have also met with other ethnic armed groups including the Kachin, Karen (Kayin) and Mon, and other ethnic political parties.¹²

⁹ Govt Invites KIO to Naypyidaw –

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/?slide=govt-invites-kio-to-naypyidaw> (Irrawaddy) 13 September 2012

¹⁰ Ethnic council calls on groups to suspend talks with gov't –

<http://www.dvb.no/news/council-calls-on-groups-to-suspend-talks-with-gov't/23736> (DVB) 13 September 2012 /
Statement: [Ethnic Nationalities Council 3rd Annual Meeting \(3rd Term\) Statement \(Burmese\)](#) - 12 September 2012

¹¹ Burmese government agrees to open OIC Humanitarian Affairs office in Rangoon –

http://www.kaladanpress.org/v3/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3844:burmese-government-agrees-to-open-oic-humanitarian-affairs-office-in-rangoon&catid=154:september2012&Itemid=2 (Kaladan) 12 September 2012

¹² 88-Generation students, KNPP to work together to create 'Union' gov't –

<http://mizzima.com/news/inside-burma/7992-88-generation-students-knpp-to-cooperate-in-creating-union-govt.html> (Mizzima) 12 September 2012

ANALYSIS

The recent cabinet reshuffle by President Thein Sein has been welcomed and seen as part of his 'second wave' of promoting the reforms. The appointments have been interpreted as bringing in technocrats capable of implementing the policies of the President, but more importantly removing anti-reformists within the government. Another significant feature of the reshuffle is the appointment of former Deputy Minister for Health Dr. Mya Myat Ohn Khin assigned to the Social Welfare, Relief and Settlement Ministry - the first and only female cabinet member in the new government. Yet, the changes do not stop there. Naypyitaw's decision to appoint Daw Yin Yin Myint, a former Director-General from the Foreign Ministry, as its Ambassador to Brunei, is not only a step in the right direction in promoting gender equality, but also a sign of genuine change. The question is whether these changes will become more frequent and permanent.

While the cabinet reshuffle and new appointments are positive steps forward, the same cannot be said of the peace talks between the government and the ethnic armed groups. The continued Burmese Army attacks in Kachin state risk stalling the efforts in ending conflict in all ethnic states if a resolution is not quickly found. Since coming to power, the President has introduced measures and steps to end the ethnic conflicts. However, it seems that some key institutions within his own administration may have misinterpreted his aims. As a result, efforts to amend such failures or non-adherence by these institutions will now need to be taken on board as a key component of the peace process and addressed if we there is to be genuine peace in Burma.

APPENDICES

Appendix A:

*Full text of
President U Thein Sein's address
to heads of Union Level organisations and members of Union Government
at affirmation ceremony of new ministers
held in Naypyitaw
on 10 September 2012*

Being individuals who are responsible and accountable to particular organizations, we should manage ourselves and our organizations well

Now, new Union Ministers and deputy ministers made affirmation already. I felt pleased and honoured with the appointment of new Union Ministers and deputy ministers, and I would like to say firstly that our government heartily welcomed that.

We firmly believed that with the arrival of new colleagues in the government we would be able to carry out the tasks for national development more effectively. With this belief, new colleagues have been chosen systematically and assigned duties.

Such promotion to higher ranks is attributed only to your hard works and integrity, and with higher ranks, your responsibilities will be heavier. So, you must always try to be equipped with quality and ability so that you can carry out the tasks dutifully.

There are responsibilities each has to assume in addition to the State responsibilities and responsibilities of your ministry. It is important to a citizen to assume the State responsibilities dutifully. The main duty is to safeguard non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

The responsibilities of your ministry are responsibilities shared to ministries concerned in order to successful carry out the tasks of the Union Government. Here, each of you needs to understand the objectives, responsibilities and tasks of the government.

In assuming the State responsibilities and the responsibilities of the government in a practical way, you need to be well aware of the fact that you should not be radical. So, you need to be strongly committed to policies. Only right conviction can bring about right deed.

Nowadays, our government is trying its utmost to fulfil the daily requirements of the people while implementing the two common aspirations of the 60 million people. The main aspirations of the people are peace and stability and national development, and their daily requirements are getting jobs, earning reasonable income, fulfilment of basis needs, education, health and water, electricity and better transportation.

Our government is paying serious attention to people's desires as it is implementing the aspirations of the people to the most possible extent. Every effort of the government is to ensure better living conditions, security and satisfaction of the people. As the objectives of the government are to fulfil people's desires, they are to be implemented on a people-centred basis.

Our government has gone through a series of reforms to keep pace with changes and developments. When in the service of the people, changes that respect and adore the people are required. In that regard, you need to understand the troubles and wishes of the people. Being civil servants among the people, you should take initiatives without awaiting directives of the superiors and criticisms of the media to shape an imposing government mechanism. I have taken Union ministers and deputy ministers into my confidence. The Union ministers and the deputy ministers need to share duties to various levels of subordinate government officials with trust in them. Explicit and stringent policies should be adopted. The reforms of the government need to penetrate into subordinates who are actually in touch with the people. This will remove the red tape that caused unnecessary disturbances and challenges for the administrative mechanism for ages.

Being a huge mission, it will not be achieved overnight or by individual's effort. Effort of the government alone is not enough. The entire people should do their bit in the process harmoniously. To enlist the strength of the people, the government should be trustworthy by the people. We, the whole government, have committed to working heart and soul to fulfil hopes and aspirations of the people.

So, we the government will have to make all-out efforts to materialize good governance and clean government. Each of us is responsible to make the government better and clean. Individuality will not count. Being individuals who are responsible and accountable to particular organizations, we should manage

ourselves and our organizations well. We should first build up ourselves and then our organizations as our leadership influence our subordinates.

I would like to warn you that we are responsible for views and comments of the people towards our ministries or organizations. I would like to conclude my address with the call for adhering to the constitution, upholding Our Three Main National Causes. Existing laws, rules, orders, directives and procedures must be abided by to avoid repeating mistakes. Understanding the policies of the State, objectives of the government and duties of the ministry, duties must be discharged honestly and earnestly. I will be held responsible for honest mistakes and fix them. But, everyone is urged not to be corrupted.¹³

Appendix B:

Appointment of Union Ministers

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

Order No. 30/2012

**6th Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(7th September, 2012)**

In accord with Section 232 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 12 of the Union Government Law, following persons were appointed as Union Ministers at the ministries shown against each.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. U Aye Myint Kyu | - | Ministry of Culture |
| 2. Maj-Gen Zeyar Aung | - | Ministry of Rail Transportation |
| 3. Dr Myint Aung | - | Ministry of Mines |
| 4. U Kyaw Lwin | - | Ministry of Construction |
| 5. U Win Shein | - | Ministry of Finance and Revenue |
| 6. Dr Kan Zaw | - | Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development |
| 7. U Maung Myint | - | Ministry of Labour |
| 8. Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin | - | Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement |
| 9. Dr Ko Ko Oo | - | Ministry of Science and Technology |
| 10. U Htay Aung | - | Ministry of Hotels and Tourism |

Sd/Thein Sein

President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar¹⁴

Appendix C:

Assignment of Union Ministers

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

Order No. 31/2012

**6th Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(7th September, 2012)**

Following Union Ministers were assigned at the ministries shown against each.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. U Thein Nyunt | - | Ministry at the President Office (1) |
| 2. U Soe Maung | - | Ministry at the President Office (2) |
| 3. U Soe Thein | - | Ministry at the President Office (3) |
| 4. U Aung Min | - | Ministry at the President Office (4) |
| 5. U Tin Naing Thein | - | Ministry at the President Office (5) |
| 6. U Hla Tun | - | Ministry at the President Office (6) |

Sd/Thein Sein

President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar¹⁵

¹³ Being individuals who are responsible and accountable to particular organizations, we should manage ourselves and our organizations well –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-11.pdf> (NLM) 11 September 2012 (p. 1 & 7)

¹⁴ Appointment of Union Ministers –

<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-08.pdf> (NLM) 8 September 2012 (p. 16)

Appendix D:

**Appointment of Union Minister
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Order No. 32/2012
6th Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(7th September, 2012)**

Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min was assigned original military duties, and in accord with Section 232 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 12 of the Union Government Law, Lt-Gen Wai Lwin of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) was appointed as Union Minister for Defence.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar¹⁶

Appendix E:

**Appointment of Auditor-General of the Union
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Order No. 34/2012
6th Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(7th September, 2012)**

In accord with Section 242, Sub-section (a) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 5 of the Union Auditor-General Law, Union Minister U Thein Htaik was appointed as Auditor-General of the Union.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar¹⁷

Appendix F:

**Reshuffle of Union Ministers
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Order No. 33/2012
6th Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(7th September, 2012)**

In accord with Section 232 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 12 of the Union Government Law, following Union Ministers were assigned duties at the ministries shown against each.

1. Lt-Gen Thein Htay - Ministry of Border Affairs
2. U Khin Maung Soe - Ministry of Electric Power

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar¹⁸

¹⁵ Assignment of Union Ministers –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-08.pdf> (NLM) 8 September 2012 (p. 16)

¹⁶ Appointment of Union Minister –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-08.pdf> (NLM) 8 September 2012 (p. 16)

¹⁷ Appointment of Auditor-General of the Union –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-08.pdf> (NLM) 8 September 2012 (p. 16)

¹⁸ Reshuffle of Union Ministers –
<http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs14/NLM2012-09-08.pdf> (NLM) 8 September 2012 (p. 16)

Appendix G:

Ethnic Nationalities Council (Union of Burma)

12 September 2012

Statement

1. The Ethnic Nationalities Council's 3rd Annual Meeting (3rd Term) was successfully held on 11-12 September 2012 at a location on the Thai-Burmese border.
2. The Ethnic Nationalities Council (ENC) welcomes the ceasefire agreements to pave the way for a political dialogue that have been concluded between some revolutionary armed ethnic nationalities groups and the Government of Myanmar. But the ENC is extremely concerned that fighting is continuing in some ethnic areas where these agreements have been concluded. The ENC calls on the Government of Myanmar to honour these ceasefire agreements.
3. Although President U Thein Sein has issued orders to stop the fighting in Kachin territory, Myanmar Army troops are still continuing to carry out military offensives. We call on the Army to stop the fighting. If the fighting continues, the ENC calls on the revolutionary armed ethnic nationalities groups to suspend their current engagement with the Government of Myanmar.
4. As a result of the military action in Kachin territory, over 90,000 people have been displaced. The ENC condemns the Government of Myanmar for preventing humanitarian aid provided by the international community from reaching the displaced communities. It is the duty of the Government of Myanmar to ensure that humanitarian aid reaches the displaced communities as soon as possible.
5. The ENC is saddened by the loss of life, house and home, injuries and displacement caused by the violence in Arakan State. We call on the Government of Myanmar to immediately resolve this problem in a just, fair and equitable way. In doing this, the Government, the United Nations and its agencies, as well as all concerned parties need to carefully balance all points of views.
6. In order to conduct a political dialogue including convening a Panglong-type Conference, the ENC is of the opinion that there is a need for the Government of Myanmar and the ethnic nationalities to first agree on a Framework on how to conduct and implement the dialogue.
7. The 3rd Annual Meeting elected Dr. Salai Lian H. Sakhong as the rotational Chairman of the ENC.

Contact Person:
Dr. Sui khar
Secretary-General¹⁹

¹⁹ [Ethnic Nationalities Council 3rd Annual Meeting \(3rd Term\) Statement \(Burmese\)](#) - 12 September 2012