

The 21st century Panglong process must set a new approach for natural resource management

On May 24th, Myanmar is set to begin the next round of 21st Century Panglong peace talks. If there is to be meaningful progress towards a lasting end to ethnic armed conflict, it is crucial that attention turns to agreeing a new approach to the management of the country's precious natural riches. For decades, the resources for which the country is famed have helped to incentivise and fuel fighting which has destroyed countless lives. Upcoming talks provide an opportunity to put Myanmar's natural resources on a new footing, and contribute to the peaceful, equitable and prosperous future the people deserve.

We, civil society groups and friends of Myanmar, call on the parties to the peace talks to agree a new approach to natural resources, based on the following principles:

1. **Participation:** Local communities, ethnic groups, women, and traditionally marginalized groups must have a meaningful opportunity to participate in decisions which impact their resources, land and livelihood;
2. **Sustainability:** Finite resources should be managed to maximise long-term benefits for the country and local communities, not short-term gains. Where appropriate, sensitive areas should be protected from exploitation.
3. **Access:** Where possible, local communities should be given opportunities to benefit from access to resources. More broadly, bidding and licensing should be open, competitive and transparent. Bidders should be treated equally and the track records of bidding companies (and the individuals who own and control them) must be considered.
4. **Safeguards:** Protections against corruption, social and human rights harms, and environmental abuse must be incorporated within the legal framework, with appropriate grievance mechanisms. Ethnic and local community rights must be recognised, as well as state and national rights.
5. **Transparency:** To guard against corruption and mismanagement, and maximise official revenues from natural resources, there must be full transparency at all stages. This includes publishing contract terms, payments and receipts, and the beneficial owners of companies bidding for or holding major licences.
6. **Strong institutions:** There must be institutional reform and a review of the division of responsibilities between the central and local government,, so as to build local and national trust that laws and safeguards will be enforced and overseen properly;
7. **Benefit-sharing:** There must be fair sharing of benefits of natural resources in ethnic areas, from access to licences and employment opportunities to licence fees and tax revenues; and
8. **Monitoring:** Independent oversight and scrutiny must be encouraged, facilitated and protected. This should include making data such as contract terms public and accessible in local areas, and allowing access to extraction areas to civil society, media and independent observers.

A fair, transparent, inclusive and accountable approach to natural resource governance is crucial to achieving an inclusive and enduring peace in Myanmar.

1. Yae Kyee Sann
2. POPP (Peace for Peaceful Plurism)
3. Myat Won Thit Myint
4. Ma Kha Guard
5. Public Network
6. [EDUWave](#)
7. Kyauk Gyi Development
8. Watch East Light Development Group
9. Bago Youth Network
10. အလင်းသီတံ Alin Thi Tan
11. ရိုးမချစ်သူ Yoma Vhit Thu
12. မော်ကွန်းသစ် Maw Kun Thit
13. သဲကုန်းလူငယ်အဖွဲ့ချုပ် Thae Kone Youth League
14. အလင်းစေတမန် Alin Say Ta Marn
15. ရွှေရိပ်စစ် Shwe Yeik Sit
16. ရွှေကျင်ချစ်သူ Shwe Kyin Chit Thu
17. မိုင်းကွန်ယက် Hmine Kun Yet
18. Pyoe Khin Thit Foundation
19. Light House Social Development
20. 88 Peace and Open Society (Ayarwaddy)
21. Dawei Development Association (DDA)
22. SSPTF Shan State Peace Task Force
23. MPA (SS) Myanmar People Alliance
24. HRDN (SS) Human Rights Documentation Network (Shan State)
25. E.C.F.D.O Environmental Conservation And Farmers Development Organization (Southern Shan)
26. F.L.U Farmers And Land Workers Union(Myanmar)
27. သံလွင်သားချင်းများအဖွဲ့ Chin Dwin Thar Chin Myar Orgnization
28. ပဒေသာမိုး Padai Tharmoe
29. IFIwatch Myanmar
30. Community Response Group
31. Myanmar-China Pipeline Watch Committee
32. Myanmar Alliance for Transparency & Accountability (Mandalay Division Working Group)
33. Peace & Open Society (Kyaukse Township)
34. Kachin Peace Network
35. MATA Ayeyarwaddy working group.
36. Ayeyarwaddy Transparency and Accountability Association (ATAA)
37. KESAN Karen Environment and Social Action Network
38. Ayeayarwaddy West Development Organization, AWDO . (Magway region)
39. Satodetayar Development Organization, SDO.
40. Yoema Chin(Satodetayar)
41. AWDO, farmer group. (Ngaphe)
42. Independence Asho Chin nation force.(Ngaphe)
43. Pwinphyu Development Organization, PDO.

44. Magway MATA.
45. MCPWC (Minbu)
46. MCPWC(Ngaphe)
47. Kachin Development Networking Group (KDNG)
48. Transparency and Accountability Network Kachin State
49. Humanity Institute

50. Union of Karenni State Youth (UKSY) ကရင်နီပြည်လူငယ်များသမဂ္ဂ
51. KNGY ကယန်းမျိုးဆက်လူငယ်
52. Kayah (Karenni) State Students Union(KSSU) ကယား(ကရင်နီ)ပြည်နယ်ကျောင်းသား များသမဂ္ဂ
53. Kayah Earthrights Action Network(KEAN)
ကယားပြည်လူ့အခွင့်ရေးနှင့်သဘာဝဝန်းကျင်အခွင့်ရေးလှုပ်ရှားဆောင်ရွက်မှုကွန်ယက်

54. Wan Lark Rural Development Foundation
- 55.Rakhine Women Association
- 56.Kyauk Phyu Social Network
- 57 Action Based Community Development (ABCD)
- 58 Rakhine Women Network (STW)
59. SKY Youth (KPU)
60. Arakan National Network (ANN)
61. Ah Linn Tagar Library (STW)
62. AD 2030 Vision (STW)
63. AD2030 Vision (RTD)
64. Environmental protection Group (PNG)
65. Environmental protection Group (KTW)
66. Environmental Protection Group (MU)
67. Young Chi Thit Group (MB)
68. Megawady Social Network (MA)
69. Ko Yan Taung Gawpaga Group (RB)
70. Rakhine Social Network(PTW)
71. Taung Goat Social Network (TG)
72. Rakhine Women Association (Taung Goat)
73. Than Dvae Beach Social Network (TDW)
74. Rakhine Coastal Association (GWA)
75. Rural Development (KPU)
76. Environment Conservation and Regional Development
77. People Resource Group
78. Regional Development (Maung Taw)
79. Thazin Legal Aid
80. Social Program Aid for Civil Education
81. Aung Thu Kha Foundation(Kyauk Phyu)
82. 88 Rakhine Generation Social Development Organization
83. Arakan Ray Central Organization (A.R.O)
84. People for People
85. Khu Mee Lit: Cult:Association

86. အပစ်ရပ် စောင့်ကြည့်ရေးအဖွဲ့
87. Khu Mee Women Organization
88. MLDNRCO - Mon Land Development and Natural Resources Conservation Organization
89. CCSN - Chin Civil Society Network
90. KECO - Kanpatlet Environment Conversation Organization
91. LNGO
92. KLDO - Kanpatlet Land Development Organization
93. MCDO - Matupi Community Development Organization
94. ILAM
95. CYO - Chin Youth Organization
96. CNRWG - Chinland Natural Resource Watch Group
97. Beauty of Mt. Chin
98. ZCD + ZDA - Zomie Congress for Democracy + Zomie Dress Agency
99. Horn Bill Organization
100. SSID - Small Scale Industries Development
101. CGN - Chin Green Network
102. CCSN - Chin Civil Society Network
103. Falam Mino Paulkom
- 104 . Kachin Development Networking Group (KDNG)
- 105 . Airavati
106. Women League of Burma WLB
107. Thuriya Sandra Environmental Watch Group.
- 108 .K'Cho Land Development Association ချိုးမြေဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအသင်း

109. Open Development Foundation (Kan Pet Let)
110. Chin Women Development Organization
111. Sane Lann Pyin Oo Lwin

112. Our future initiative
113. Southern Youth
114. Green Network Mergui Achipelago
115. Tanintharyi Fisheries Partnership
116. Tanintharyi Green Network
117. Motherland
118. စေ ကော့သောင်း
119. စေ ဘုတ်ပြင်း
120. FLEGT ဘုတ်ပြင်း
121. တောင်သူလယ်သမားသမဂ္ဂ(ကော့သောင်းမြို့နယ်)
122. ကျောက်မီးသွေးစောင့်ကြည့်ရေးအဖွဲ့.
123. Dawei Watch Foundation
124. Ka Lone Htar Development Committee
125. Community Sustainable Livelihood Development Committee
126. Mine Monitors Group
127. Land Resources Group
128. Dawei Youth Fellowship

129. Tanintharyi Friends
130. Takapaw
131. Dawei Research Association
132. Green Generation
133. မေတ္တာလက်ကမ်း
134. မြိတ်မြို့နယ်တောင်သူလယ်သမား သမဂ္ဂ
135. လမ်းစအဖွဲ့
136. သယံဇာတစောင့်ကြည့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (တနင်္သာရီ)
137. သယံဇာတစောင့်ကြည့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (ပုလောက်)
138. ၈၈ ပုလော

139. Kachin Women's Association Thailand