

Date: 3rd October 2011

Ethnic Nationalities Council (ENC)
Statement on Supporting
Brotherhood of Ethnic Nationalities Political Parties' position

On behalf of the people of Arakan, Chin, Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Mon and Shan states, as well as all the people of the Union of Burma, we, the Ethnic Nationalities Council welcome the decision of President U Thein Sein to halt the construction of the Myitsone Dam.

We further call on him and his government to address the grave concerns of the people over the other dams being constructed on the Irrawaddy and Salween rivers. These dams and other mega projects are disrupting the environment and depriving the local people of their livelihoods. These concerns need to be addressed seriously and immediately.

The ENC also welcomes Statement No.5/2011 of the Brotherhood of Ethnic Nationalities Political Parties calling for the expansion of the Peace Committee and for the immediate convening of workshops and consultations to find a way to establish internal peace. We need all stakeholders to participate in this process that will affect the future of the people of the Union of Burma.

The ENC also joins the Brotherhood of Ethnic Nationalities Political Parties in calling for President U Thein Sein to free all political prisoners including Hkun Htoon Oo and other ethnic nationalities leaders, as well as Min Ko Naing and other leaders.

We also share grave concern expressed by Brotherhood of Ethnic Nationalities Political Parties on the armed conflicts happening in ethnic territories. The ENC calls for to stop military operations against ethnic nationalities particularly in the territories of Kachin, Karen and Shan.

Ethnic Nationalities Council
(Union of Burma)

Contact person: Dr Sui Khar, Secretary General,
Tel: +66 (0) 89 4343 156