



ပြည်ထောင်စုပြန်လှည့်ရေးအဖွဲ့ချုပ် **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE UNION OF BURMA**

NCUB Statement Supporting & Welcoming Decisions on Burma by the 98th ILO Conference

No. 07 / 2009

The International Labor Organization (ILO), an affiliate body of the United Nations (UN), promotes and protects workers' rights and interests throughout the world. In Burma, where the military regime, the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), violently suppresses the rights of the workers, the people consider the ILO a dependable organization that pressures the government to end human rights abuses. Since 2000, the National Council of the Union of Burma (NCUB) has supported ILO activities in Burma, which include drawing international attention to the dire conditions prevalent for the majority of the labor force, providing protection to forced labor victims, reporting the abuses of workers' rights regularly to relevant international institutions, and demanding the SPDC cease forced labor in Burma.

The NCUB earnestly welcomes and supports the decision of the ILO to take decisive action in response to the SPDC's failure to address violations of workers' rights.

The NCUB additionally welcomes the ILO's demand to the SPDC to rescind provisions of Article 359 in Chapter 11 of the SPDC's 2008 State Constitution, which currently grants the State's armed forces the discretion to use forced labor. Furthermore, the NCUB wholeheartedly supports the ILO's calls for the SPDC to include a provision in the Constitution guaranteeing the Burmese people the freedom of association, as required by binding international legal standards.

The NCUB firmly believes that the Global Justice Movement gained significant strength from the ILO's initiative demanding the SPDC abolish its declaration branding the Federation of Trade Unions - Burma (FTUB) and the Burma Lawyers' Council (BLC) unlawful associations. The work of these organizations, in conjunction with the Global Justice Movement, are crucial to protecting workers', democratic, and human rights while promoting the rule of law and accountability in Burma.

In conclusion, we, the NCUB, solemnly pledge with this statement to fully cooperate with the ILO in their activities to protect both the rights of the workers in Burma and around the world, as well as the basic human rights of all Burmese citizens.

June 14, 2009

National Council of the Union of Burma

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