



Confederation of Trade Unions Myanmar

Responsibilities & Rights

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Yangon Declaration

Today, after two-dacade valiant struggle in exile and vigorous organising campaign since 2011, we, the affiliates of the FTUB/FTUM, have come to a historic stage to renew our organisation by transferring all constitutional and organisational assets to the Confederation of Trade Union - Myanmar (CTUM) by adopting our new constitution.

Despite of political parties have been allowed with conditions/restrictions after the 1988 nationwide people movement for democracy, trade unions were entirely banned. In 2010, with the democratic change in the country, unions are allowed to form in accordance with the 2011 Labour Organisation Law, 2012 Labour Organisation Rule. At this moment, right to form unions has been achieved in Myanmar.

Hence, to protect trade unions and to intensively and perpetually strive/struggle for establishment of free and independent trade unions is our prime responsibility and duty.

Freedom of Association is the fundamental/essential right to workers/trade unions and right to organise and collective bargaining is also important for free trade unions to negotiate with employers and governments by representing workers and their demands.

We must definitely struggle for the fundamental rights. Implementing the Freedom of Association, Democracy means as principle. Therefore, we strongly commit to restore and advance Democracy in the country.

In the democratic principle, believing that freedom of thought, freedom of expression and freedom of association must be translated into actual conditions affecting the lives of workers and their relations with their employers, interrelations between employers, among people and with the state, the CTUM proclaims the right of individuals:

- Social justice and equal opportunity to lead a full and decent life
- Right to work and choice of employment
- Employment Security and Income Security

- Adequate protection of social lives and health in all occupations
- Freedom on establishment of Trade Unions and freedom to join and cooperate with each other
- To restore democracy and sustain it
- To create fair and equal opportunities for narrowing gap between rich and poor
- Fair distribution of productivity and income of the country

We exist:

- a. To protect and promote the interests of working people throughout the world and to strive for decent work;
- b. To defend workers rights and prevent anti union actions from anti-labour forces aiming at destruction, infiltration, subjugation of labour organisations;
- c. To protect, maintain and promote Democracy, Basic Human Rights and Democratic Leadership for National Development;
- d. To build international trade union solidarity;
- e. To strive for the establishment of full employment: the elimination of adverse discrimination on grounds of race, sex, nationality, age, belief, HIV-AIDS infected people in all occupation and the improvement of working condition; and the rising of living standards of people of the whole country;
- f. To protect, maintain and expand the system of free labour and to eliminate forced labour everywhere;
- g. To ensure the integration of women and youth participation in the trade union movement;
- h. Social protection for workers;
- i. To further the establishment, maintenance and the development of free, independent trade unions in Myanmar;
- j. As the body to speak and act on behalf of Myanmar Unions as a whole. By organising unions which are free and independent, value democratic principle, working for worker's benefits; and
- k. To build Social Dialogue/constructive/sound industrial relations for national development

As an organisation that fervently upholds the principle of democracy, we shall be independent in every respect of governments, state institutions, political parties Religious organisations and employers' organisations and any other organisation.

At this historic juncture, we express our profound appreciation to those who have extended unstinted support to the growth of the CTUM, we hereby declare the constitutional and organisational continuity of our organisation and the inauguration of the operation of the CTUM as the succeeding body of the CTUM by adopting its Constitution.

CTUM 2nd Congress in our home country
29 -30 November 2019