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Women's League of Burma welcomes the meeting between two women world leaders: Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mrs. Hillary Clinton

1st December 2011

Women's League of Burma welcomes the face-to-face meeting between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, highly respected by the people of Burma and the international community alike, and US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton to be held on December 2 to discuss about Burma's political developments.

We truly believe that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mrs. Hillary Clinton, being influential women national leaders, will work with their full heartfelt commitment for the long-term safety and well-being of women who compose of half of the world's population, including in Burma.

Women are the most vulnerable and are victims of Burma's deteriorating political, economic and social sectors. In addition, women living in conflict-raging ethnic states are currently being abused using many forms of violence, including gang rape, sexual-slavery, and slaughter.

At the 2009 United Nations Security Council Conference on Women, Security and Peace, Mrs. Hillary Clinton strongly denounced those responsible for committing acts of sexual violence against women during armed conflict in the Congo and demanded a harsh punishment for all perpetrators. We fervently request Mrs. Clinton to also call for bringing justice to women in Burma facing similar abuses and demand an end of the impunity that the members of military have significantly enjoyed.

Last May, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi acknowledged that rape is used as a weapon of war in the ethnic areas of Burma in her video message to the Conference on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict, organized by the Nobel Women's Initiative in Montebello, Canada.

We welcome initiatives of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to bring increased number of women into political leadership and specifically into the National League for Democracy (NLD)'s new leading committee list that was required to register their party, which includes 11 female members out of 21.

We believe that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has taken the best choice and the most plausible strategy out of a terrible and very complex situation, and that she does so out of the highest interest for the people of Burma.

It is assured that we, the Women's League of Burma, are in full support of our respective leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi while she takes politically sensitive steps at this juncture.

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