

CAMP GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
9 AUGUST 2006

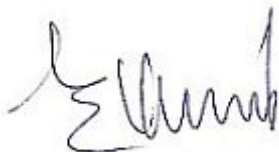
MESSAGE TO KNO CABINET MEMBERS ON 'THE DEED OF COMMITMENT TO BAN LANDMINES'

On this day, 9 August 2006, the Kuki National Organisation and its armed groups, represented by the president PS Haokip, signed a Deed of Commitment to ban use of landmines with Geneva Call and the Government of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland. This humanitarian endeavour to ban landmines, the initiative of Geneva Call, has resulted in thirty-one revolutionary organisations from around the world signing the Deed of Commitment to create a landmine-free world. KNO is the thirty-first. The countries most affected by landmines are Colombia and Burma. In India, Kukis have been victims of landmines planted on our lands by Manipur People's Army, a conglomeration of armed groups from the Meitei community.

The essence of the Deed of Commitment to denounce use of landmines lies in the fact that the weapon is 'victim activated'. The victim could be the party responsible for planting the landmine or an innocent individual. An interpretation of landmine for those who place faith in 'honour', even in war, the weapon epitomizes cowardice. In other words, landmines are used by those who do not believe in fighting an honourable war.

KNO takes pride in being a part of this humanitarian endeavour of Geneva Call to ban landmines. As president of the organisation, which seeks to achieve a solution for the Kuki people, both in India and Burma through political dialogue with the respective governments, I urge each and every member of KNO to cooperate fully with Geneva Call's initiative to ban landmines and create a world free of this indiscriminate weapon.

Thank you!



PS Haokip
President, Kuki National Organisation
Zale'n-gam
MANMASI