

Country/entity	Myanmar
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Chin National Front (CNF), Government Ceasefire Agreement
Date	7 May 2012
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Myanmar Conflict (1948 -)

Internal conflict, mostly along ethno-political fault lines, has been a constant feature of Myanmar since its independence in 1948. The conflict has two distinct dynamics. First a struggle between an authoritarian government and a pro-democracy opposition which has the characteristics of authoritarian conflicts; and second a struggle between the government and ethnic armed groups which has the characteristics of an identity conflict. The two oldest and strongest militias fighting the government are the Karen National Union (KNU), which has remained active since the late 1940s, and the Kachin Independence Organisation, which was formed in the early 1960s. In total, there are more than a dozen mostly ethnic-based guerrilla groups active throughout the country. Especially in the period of junta dictatorship that lasted until 2011 the government attempted to crush the rebellions, which led to numerous human rights violations. With the start of democratic reforms in the aftermath of the 2010 elections, peace negotiations have taken place and resulted in the signing of various agreements, although conflicts remain active.

Close
Myanmar Conflict (1948 -)

Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Myanmar ceasefires process with ethnic armed groups
Parties	Chin National Front and the Union- level Peace Delegation
Third parties	in the Presence of Witnesses from Peace Facilitators
Description	-

Agreement document [MM_120507_CNF-Government-Ceasefire-Agreement.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/
national group** Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical
Page 7, The above 15-point has been solemnly entered into an agreement on 7th May 2012, 2 Kasone 1374 of the Myanmar Calendar, at the Union Guesthouse in Hakha, the capital of Chin State. In signing this agreement, the parties mutually recognize without reservation, the obligation for full observation and, of following through the terms of the agreement, having accepted the non- disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, perpetuation of national sovereignty, and the flourishing of the ethnic affairs and democracy as the basic principles of the agreement.

Religious groups Groups→Religious groups→Substantive
Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 13) On Basic Human Rights
The Constitution of the Union of Myanmar, Article (449), states that ‘the Constitution is the basic law of the nation.’ As such, freedom from interference, obstruction, restrictions, discrimination and physical abuse against religious practice under articles 34, 348, 362, 363, 354 (e) of the Constitution, cannot be alienated except in situations of “Widespread civil war, foreign invasion and civil uprising in the whole Union”. The parties agreed to cooperate in working towards ensuring the non-violation of these constitutional provisions.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced
persons** No specific mention.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

**Women, girls and
gender** No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)

Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 4), Basic Principles for Political Dialogue
As was agreed upon during the State-level talks, the political talks at the Union-level dialogue will be based on the ideals of the “Three National Causes’: Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and the perpetuation of national sovereignty. The parties agreed that such a dialogue will be held with the view to establish a genuine Union based on the ideals of equality and self-determination rooted in the Spirit of Panglong.

Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 6) On Public Consultation
The parties agreed that the Chin National Front can freely hold consultations with relevant responsible persons and the larger public towards durable peace in the Union of Myanmar based on its three objectives and the ‘Three National Causes’.

Page 7, The above 15-point has been solemnly entered into an agreement on 7th May 2012, 2 Kasone 1374 of the Myanmar Calendar, at the Union Guesthouse in Hakha, the capital of Chin State. In signing this agreement, the parties mutually recognize without reservation, the obligation for full observation and, of following through the terms of the agreement, having accepted the non- disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, perpetuation of national sovereignty, and the flourishing of the ethnic affairs and democracy as the basic principles of the agreement.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination

Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 4), Basic Principles for Political Dialogue
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Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols

Page 4, Point of Agreement (No 11) Chin National Day
The parties shall strive towards official re-recognition of February 20 as the Chin National Day. They will strive towards recognizing February 3 as the Chin State Day.

Independence/ secession

No specific mention.

Accession/unification Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 4), Basic Principles for Political Dialogue
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Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 6) On Public Consultation
The parties agreed that the Chin National Front can freely hold consultations with relevant responsible persons and the larger public towards durable peace in the Union of Myanmar based on its three objectives and the ‘Three National Causes’.

Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 7)²⁹
On Matters Regarding Humanitarian Organizations
The parties agreed on principle that the relevant Union Ministries will issue licenses to both international and local humanitarian organizations desiring to implement humanitarian work inside Chin State when such requests have been made to the CNF. The parties agreed that in carrying out humanitarian work inside Chin State, the CNF shall be consulted when a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between the Chin State Government and a humanitarian organization that has been granted permission by the Union Government.

Page 4, Point of Agreement (No 8) Promoting Human Resources and Capitals
Organizations working for the promotion of socio-economic progress and development of human resources, whether based inside the country or exile, for the benefit of Chin State and Chin people, shall freely operate in Chin State with prior consultation with relevant governments and in accordance with the existing laws.

**Traditional/
religious leaders**

No specific mention.

**Public
administration**

No specific mention.

Constitution

Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal

Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 13) On Basic Human Rights

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Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 13) On Basic Human Rights

... The parties agreed to cooperate in ensuring unconditional and due punishment for anyone for violations of basic human rights in accordance with the law, as well as ensuring that no parties violates the constitutional basic human rights of the people in the future during the course of the ceasefire agreement. This is grounded in the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Burma under Chapter 8 “Citizens, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens” – rights that cannot be abrogated except in situation of “Widespread civil war, foreign invasion and civil uprising in the whole Union”.

Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 13) On Basic Human Rights

... Both parties agreed to not engage in activities that run counter to the constitution, in Chin State such as forced labor, slavery, human trafficking etc. during the term of the ceasefire agreement in accordance with Article 358 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Burma.

Power sharing

**Political power
sharing**

No specific mention.

**Territorial power
sharing**

No specific mention.

**Economic power
sharing**

No specific mention.

**Military power
sharing**

No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general Page 2, Point of Agreement (No 2), Agreement Relating to the Establishment of Temporary Bases in Accordance with the Preliminary Agreement,
... Outside of the designated temporary bases, all members of the Chin National Front and the Chin National Army, barring wearing military uniforms or bearing arms, have the same rights as other citizens of the Union of Burma to freely move legally within all territories of the Union of Myanmar effective upon this Union-level agreement, in accordance with the original preliminary agreement. Where situation arises for the need to make troop movement or other matters in which arms should be carried, prior permission must be sought with the nearest Myanmar Army camps and after obtaining approval from both sides, which shall have granted such permission for travel within designated routes.

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Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 5), On Matters Regarding International Agreements
During the Union-level talks, consideration will be made regarding the international agreements that have been acceded to by the Government of the Union of Myanmar, as well as other international human rights moral obligations.

Civil and political rights

Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Equality
Page 1, The following agreement having been solemnly reached on the 7th of May 2012 between the Chin National Front and Union-level Peace Team in the presence of witnesses from peace facilitators upon frank and sincere discussion, is aimed at specifying the terms of reference that each party is obligated to observe, implement and materialize on a step-by-step basis, based on the nine-point original preliminary agreement on the 6th of January 2012 at Hakha, Chin State between the CNF and State Govt-level Peace Team, towards realizing eternal peace, justice, equality and socio-economic development through peaceful cooperation.

Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 13) On Basic Human Rights
The Constitution of the Union of Myanmar, Article (449), states that ‘the Constitution is the basic law of the nation.’ As such, freedom from interference, obstruction, restrictions, discrimination and physical abuse against religious practice under articles 34, 348, 362, 363, 354 (e) of the Constitution, cannot be alienated except in situations of “Widespread civil war, foreign invasion and civil uprising in the whole Union”. The parties agreed to cooperate in working towards ensuring the non-violation of these constitutional provisions.

Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Slavery

Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 13) On Basic Human Rights

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Socio-economic rights

No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship

Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizens, specific rights

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Page 4, Point of Agreement (No 10) On Visas

The parties agreed that the Union-level Peace Team will assist in issuing visas and necessary permits for Chin nationals who have made such a request to CNF, who have obtained citizenship from other countries wanting to make a visit to the Union of Myanmar.

Democracy

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Detention procedures

No specific mention.

Media and communication

No specific mention.

Mobility/access

Page 1-2, Point of Agreement (No 2), Agreement Relating to the Establishment of Temporary Bases in Accordance with the Preliminary Agreement

The parties further agreed to enable members of the Chin National Front and the Chin National Army to establish bases and move freely, without limitation, within the areas designated for such temporary bases as outlined in the original preliminary mutual agreement between the Chin National Front and Chin State/Union Government: Tlangpi, Dawn and Zangtlang Village Tracts of Thantlang Township, and Zampi and Bukphir Village Tracts of Tedim Township. With regards to the establishment of CNF bases in Kung Pyin, Para and Pathiantlang Village Tracts of Paletwa Townships, the parties also agreed to carry on further discussion at the second-round Union-level talks considering that those areas fall within the command responsibility of the Western Command.

Furthermore, the parties agree to discuss further at the second-round Union-level talks matter pertaining to additional demand regarding the establishment of CNF bases within Thantlang Township’s Belhar, Vanzang, Lungding Village Tracts, as well as Lulpilung village; Tedim Township’s Dampi, Tui Dial Village Tracts; Paletwa Township’s Ra O and Shweletwa Village Tracts, as well as Ra Kan Village.

Page 2, Point of Agreement (No 2), Agreement Relating to the Establishment of Temporary Bases in Accordance with the Preliminary Agreement,

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Protection measures

No specific mention.

Other

No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions Page 2, Point of Agreement (No 2), Agreement Relating to the Establishment of Temporary Bases in Accordance with the Preliminary Agreement, Effective from the date of signing this Union-level agreement, if the Myanmar Army and Myanmar Police Force wishes to carry out activities to facilitate the peace process within the temporary base areas designated for the Chin National Front and Chin National Army, they can only do so by pre-informing such a plan to pertinent Liaison Offices, which shall have been agreed to by both sides in advance. In case of emergency situation, both sides may execute troop movements upon informing the pertinent local commanders from the other side. However, the pertinent Liaison Office shall be informed of this at the earliest possible time.


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Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development</p> <p>Page 1, The following agreement having been solemnly reached on the 7th of May 2012 between the Chin National Front and Union-level Peace Team in the presence of witnesses from peace facilitators upon frank and sincere discussion, is aimed at specifying the terms of reference that each party is obligated to observe, implement and materialize on a step-by-step basis, based on the nine-point original preliminary agreement on the 6th of January 2012 at Hakha, Chin State between the CNF and State Govt-level Peace Team, towards realizing eternal peace, justice, equality and socio-economic development through peaceful cooperation.</p> <p>Page 4, Point of Agreement (No 8) Promoting Human Resources and Capitals Organizations working for the promotion of socio-economic progress and development of human resources, whether based inside the country or exile, for the benefit of Chin State and Chin people, shall freely operate in Chin State with prior consultation with relevant governments and in accordance with the existing laws.</p> <p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance</p> <p>Page 3, Point of Agreement (No 7) On Matters Regarding Humanitarian Organizations The parties agreed on principle that the relevant Union Ministries will issue licenses to both international and local humanitarian organizations desiring to implement humanitarian work inside Chin State when such requests have been made to the CNF. The parties agreed that in carrying out humanitarian work inside Chin State, the CNF shall be consulted when a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between the Chin State Government and a humanitarian organization that has been granted permission by the Union Government.</p>
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	No specific mention.
Business	No specific mention.
Taxation	No specific mention.
Banks	No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.



Security sector

**Security
Guarantees**

Page 2, Point of Agreement (No 3), Rights and Responsibilities of Liaison Offices
The preliminary agreement stipulated that Liaison Offices shall be established in Thanglang, Tedim and Matupi Towns. Such establishment was to carry out upon that agreement. In this context, the parties agreed to ensure that the Liaison Officer will be provided treatment consistent with diplomatic protocols that reflect his position within the CNF if such a person is a member of the Central Committee of the CNF. The Chin State Government shall provide necessary measures to ensure the physical security of the Liaison Officer. The parties agreed to observe the agreed rules of ceasefire within the above- mentioned territorial areas and in accordance with the existing laws of the Chin State Government.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, Point of Agreement (No 1) On Ceasefire

The Union-level Peace Team reaffirms the preliminary agreement between the Chin State Government-level peace team and the Chin National Front Peace Team reached on January 6, 2012 as having valid and effective on the date of entry with the view of putting a stop to military confrontation and other kinds of hostilities between the two parties towards finding solution to a permanent peace. On this basis, the two parties agreed to work together in ensuring that conflicts are put to an end throughout the Union so that there are no longer military and other hostilities.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 14) Ceasefire Monitoring Body

It is agreed that both parties shall consultatively form a “Ceasefire Monitoring Body”, whose role will be to monitor observance of the peace agreements by the two parties with the view of materializing permanent peace out of the initial ceasefire. This group will primarily consist of the Chin Peace and Tranquility Committee with the participation of other legal experts.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 14) Ceasefire Monitoring Body

... The parties agreed that the Ceasefire Monitoring Body shall immediately send notice to the ‘Crisis Mediation Group’ in the event that the Union Government, the Myanmar Army, Myanmar Police Force, Chin State Government, Chin National Front and Chin National Army failed to observe any of points of the agreements, including the preliminary 9-point ceasefire agreements.

The parties agreed in principle to institute and duly authorize independent and impartial international observer groups when such need arises.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 15) Institution of Peace Mediating Body

... It is agreed that such a mediating body shall be formed under the leadership of the Chin State Border Areas and Security Affairs Minister that will also involve Liaison Officer of the Chin National Front and the Chin National Army in charge of the areas where such incident took place, or commander or in-charge of the Chin National Army, commander of the Myanmar Army or Police Force, and Chairman of the Chin Peace Monitoring Body or such duly authorized person.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 15) Institution of Peace Mediating Body

... The Minister (Chin State Border Areas and Security Affairs Minister) call a meeting within seven days of receiving a report of allegations about a breach of any of the preliminary or Union-level agreements having been reported by Liaison Officer of the Chin National Front/Chin National Army, responsible person(s) of the Myanmar Army, the Ceasefire Monitoring Body so that such matters can be resolved peacefully. If the two parties agreed on a decision having been reached by the Crisis

Police

Page 2, Point of Agreement (No 2), Agreement Relating to the Establishment of Temporary Bases in Accordance with the Preliminary Agreement,
... Effective from the date of signing this Union-level agreement, if the Myanmar Army and Myanmar Police Force wishes to carry out activities to facilitate the peace process within the temporary base areas designated for the Chin National Front and Chin National Army, they can only do so by pre-informing such a plan to pertinent Liaison Offices, which shall have been agreed to by both sides in advance. In case of emergency situation, both sides may execute troop movements upon informing the pertinent local commanders from the other side. However, the pertinent Liaison Office shall be informed of this at the earliest possible time.

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Page 7, Mediation Body, which is based on the preliminary 9-point agreement, such a decision will be considered final.
If such a decision cannot be agreed to by one or both parties, an alternative peaceful solution will be sought with the involvement of leaders of the CNF/CNA, members of the Chin State Government, relevant members of the Western and Northwestern Commands of the Myanmar Army, members of the Union Peace Team and Crisis Mediating Body.

Armed forces

Page 1, Point of Agreement (No 1) On Ceasefire

The Union-level Peace Team reaffirms the preliminary agreement between the Chin State Government-level peace team and the Chin National Front Peace Team reached on January 6, 2012 as having valid and effective on the date of entry with the view of putting a stop to military confrontation and other kinds of hostilities between the two parties towards finding solution to a permanent peace. On this basis, the two parties agreed to work together in ensuring that conflicts are put to an end throughout the Union so that there are no longer military and other hostilities.

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DDR

No specific mention.

**Intelligence
services**

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

Page 1-2, Point of Agreement (No 2), Agreement Relating to the Establishment of Temporary Bases in Accordance with the Preliminary Agreement

The parties further agreed to enable members of the Chin National Front and the Chin National Army to establish bases and move freely, without limitation, within the areas designated for such temporary bases as outlined in the original preliminary mutual agreement between the Chin National Front and Chin State/Union Government: Tlangpi, Dawn and Zangtlang Village Tracts of Thantlang Township, and Zampi and Bukphir Village Tracts of Tedim Township. With regards to the establishment of CNF bases in Kung Pyin, Para and Pathiantlang Village Tracts of Paletwa Townships, the parties also agreed to carry on further discussion at the second-round Union-level talks considering that those areas fall within the command responsibility of the Western Command.

Furthermore, the parties agree to discuss further at the second-round Union-level talks matter pertaining to additional demand regarding the establishment of CNF bases within Thantlang Township's Belhar, Vanzang, Lungding Village Tracts, as well as Lulpilung village; Tedim Township's Dampi, Tui Dial Village Tracts; Paletwa Township's Ra O and Shweletwa Village Tracts, as well as Ra Kan Village.

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Page 4, Point of Agreement (No 12), Matters Regarding the Chin National Front and Chin National Army

The Chin National Front and Chin National Army remain unlawful organizations under the existing laws. The parties, therefore, agreed to do away with this designation once sufficient level of confidence has been built towards eternal peace.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 14) Ceasefire Monitoring Body

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The parties agreed in principle to institute and duly authorize independent and impartial international observer groups when such need arises.

Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	Page 4, Point of Agreement (No 9) Joint Effort to Eradicate Illegal Drugs The Chin National Front will cooperate with different levels of drug eradication bodies at the State, District, Township, Wards and Village Tracts, which has been established in accordance with the Government's Order No. 17/2011 towards curbing narcotics and other mind-altering drugs.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper
Page 4-5, Point of Agreement (No 12), Matters Regarding the Chin National Front and Chin National Army
The parties agreed that the Union-level Peace Team submit to the President the need to declare amnesty to anyone who have been arrested and imprisoned on account of CNF and CNA since the establishment of the organization, effective the date of the signing of this agreement.
Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Relief of other sanctions
Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 12), Matters Regarding the Chin National Front and Chin National Army
... The parties agreed that the Union-level Peace Team shall carry forward with removing such names in accordance with the law that have been blacklisted as members of the CNF.

Page 5, Point of Agreement (No 12), Matters Regarding the Chin National Front and Chin National Army
... The parties agreed that there shall be complete immunity for any members of Chin National Front and Chin National Army after the signing of this CNF- Union-level agreement from retrospective criminal prosecution.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 14) Ceasefire Monitoring Body
 ... The parties agreed that the Ceasefire Monitoring Body shall immediately send notice to the 'Crisis Mediation Group' in the event that the Union Government, the Myanmar Army, Myanmar Police Force, Chin State Government, Chin National Front and Chin National Army failed to observe any of points of the agreements, including the preliminary 9-point ceasefire agreements.
 The parties agreed in principle to institute and duly authorize independent and impartial international observer groups when such need arises.

Enforcement mechanism

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 15) Institution of Peace Mediating Body
While both parties have agreed to strictly avoid accidental confrontation and to strictly observe the mutual agreement, the parties shall accept the final arbitration of the crisis mediating body should there be any such physical violence resulting from the accidental nature.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 15) Institution of Peace Mediating Body
... It is agreed that such a mediating body shall be formed under the leadership of the Chin State Border Areas and Security Affairs Minister that will also involve Liaison Officer of the Chin National Front and the Chin National Army in charge of the areas where such incident took place, or commander or in- charge of the Chin National Army, commander of the Myanmar Army or Police Force, and Chairman of the Chin Peace Monitoring Body or such duly authorized person.

Page 6, Point of Agreement (No 15) Institution of Peace Mediating Body
... The Minister (Chin State Border Areas and Security Affairs Minister) call a meeting within seven days of receiving a report of allegations about a breach of any of the preliminary or Union-level agreements having been reported by Liaison Officer of the Chin National Front/Chin National Army, responsible person(s) of the Myanmar Army, the Ceasefire Monitoring Body so that such matters can be resolved peacefully. If the two parties agreed on a decision having been reached by the Crisis

Page 7, Mediation Body, which is based on the preliminary 9-point agreement, such a decision will be considered final.
If such a decision cannot be agreed to by one or both parties, an alternative peaceful solution will be sought with the involvement of leaders of the CNF/CNA, members of the Chin State Government, relevant members of the Western and Northwestern Commands of the Myanmar Army, members of the Union Peace Team and Crisis Mediating Body.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

Agreement available at: <https://www.mmpeacemonitor.org/images/pdf/CNF-Government-Ceasefire-Agreement.pdf>
