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LWF Myanmar simplifying UN processes for wider Civil Society Human Rights Consultation and Coordination

Following the publishing of the UN UPR-Working Group Outcome Report on the 10th of November 2015, LWF Myanmar felt that the way the Report was presented did not assist stakeholders at large in understanding the position of the government vis a vis some important topics.

Deputy Program Manager, The Lutheran World Federation, Francesca Paola Traglia explained that "We are coordinating now in this workshop with different INGOs, civil society and government embassies. LWF Myanmar decided to analyze the Working Group Outcome Report and to run a workshop so as to allow a wider range of civil society to understand the process and kick start coordination on follow-up advocacy towards influencing the adoption of the UPR pending recommendations. We are providing a platform for coordination so that the government can accept as many recommendations as possible."

LWF also held discussions with representatives of the government delegation to the Human Rights Council on the way forward. They have reassured LWF staff of the government's commitment to improve the human rights situation in the country. It has been made clear that the government is open to work together with civil society organizations such as the LWF in translating UPR recommendations into concrete actions on the ground to improve people's lives".

Regional Representative, The Lutheran World Federation, David H. Mueller said: "We hope to work closely with all interested entities and the independent Myanmar National Human Rights Commission to support and monitor the achievements towards implementing the UPR recommendations at all levels.

Lutheran World Federation seeks broad support to facilitate dialogue on human rights that looks at barriers and seeks solutions in a collaborative way, amongst women, men, youth and local government. LWF has organized this workshop to continue to promote engagement and collaboration in finding ways to improve people's access to Human Rights. There are four more years until the next UPR process for Myanmar and we all have a chance to work on the issues identified by the UPR process."

The Myanmar Government will submit a report that specifies which UPR recommendations it agrees to implement over the next four years, to the UN Human Rights Council on 17th March. It is important that all stakeholders and indeed all people in Myanmar are aware of and participate in this UPR process. LWF will continue to hold inclusive events at different levels to ensure that the Myanmar UPR process succeeds.

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