NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

INTERIM RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
(FORESTRY AND BIODIVERSITY SECTOR)

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**Interim Resources Management Framework**  
*(Forestry and Biodiversity Sector)*

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Chapter (1)

Introduction

1. At the present time, there are the increased threats of uncontrolled production of natural resources by the State Administration Council (SAC), and the increased risks of illegal overexploitation of the resources by the entrepreneur and business entities under the lack of rule of law in many areas.

2. Therefore, according to the Article 22, Sub-section (b), Article 23, Sub-section (e) and Article 25, Sub-section (a) of Chapter (4) in the Federal Democracy Charter (Part II); for the tasks of the Interim National Unity Government (NUG), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) enacted this framework to prevent the existing forest and biodiversity resources from being depleted and to manage the resources in a timely manner for the long-term sustainability.

Chapter (2)

Objectives, Basic Principles, and Scope of the Framework

(a) Objectives

3. The objectives of this framework are:

(a) To support the formulation of the land and natural resources management principles in accord with the Federal Democracy Charter.

(b) To prevent the illegal production, transportation, and trade of forest and biodiversity resources.

(c) To assess environmental and social impacts and identify the remedial measures to mitigate these impacts.
(d) To strive for the development of the relevant region by systematically managing forest resources and biological diversity.

(e) To actively participate and work together with the local people, ethnic groups including indigenous people, and the Ethnic Revolutionary Organizations (EROs) in carrying out the natural resources management activities.

(f) To issue, if necessary, the regulations and instructions on forest resources management in consistent with the current interim conditions and the international standards

(b) Basic Principles

4. The MONREC shall comply with the following basic principles when managing the forest resources and biodiversity in the current interim period:

(a) Transparency, responsibility, and accountability

(b) Human right standards, gender norms, and the rights of minorities including indigenous people

(c) Paying heed to the common values and shared interests among the Burmese majorities and other ethnic nationalities

(d) People-center approach

(e) Acknowledge and respect over diverse range of traditional knowledge, rules, and customs that are in line with the basic human rights

(f) Benefits sharing based on sustainability and equity

(g) Long-term sustainable development in harmony with the environment and society
(c) Scope of Extent

5. Time limitation - This framework is only intended for “the interim period”; Geography coverage - it shall be implemented “within the areas under the administration of local administrative bodies” in accord with the guidelines of the NUG.

Chapter (3)

Administration

(a) Prohibited Activities

6. During the interim period, the following activities are prohibited.

   (a) Commercial logging, including timber extraction by the Myanma Timber Enterprise (MTE) under the SAC

   (b) Permitting the lease and use rights of forest land, including the activities of community forestry

   (c) Implementing new development activities in the particular watershed conservation areas

   (d) Transporting, exporting, and trading the whole or parts of the protected wild animals and plants at domestics and to foreign countries without the permission of this Ministry

   (e) Constituting new forest lands and protected areas, amending and degazetting the category of the whole or a portion of the forest lands and protected areas, without the consent of the local communities and ethnic groups

   (f) Extending and issuing the rights on forest products extraction, business licenses, registrations and other permits issued prior to the formation of the NUG.

(b) Permitted Activities

7. During the interim period, the following activities will be permitted under conditions.
(a) Protecting and managing the natural forests and mangroves by the local customs and tradition of local communities and ethnic groups in the areas under the administration of the NUG.

(b) Utilizing, transporting, and selling the timbers (that have been extracted prior to the NUG) for public purposes (or) for the purposes of religion and belief in accordance with the instructions and procedures of this Ministry.

(c) Extracting the timber, poles, posts and other non-timber forest products for the subsistence and non-commercial purposes such as household use, agricultural implements, and fishing activities.

(d) Transporting and selling the wood-based products manufactured by furniture industries and small and medium enterprises using raw materials legally extracted in the country.

(e) Keeping the parts of wild animals as souvenirs and wearing them according to traditional customs.

(f) Cultivating the seasonal crops such as swidden cultivation, carried out by ethnic groups and local communities.

Chapter (4)

Collaboration in the Areas Controlled by the Ethnic Revolutionary Organizations (EROs)

8. In the areas controlled by the EROs, the policies and regulations enacted by these organizations shall be abided.

9. The MONREC NUG will collaborate with the relevant EROs to remediate, manage and mitigate the damage or impacts caused by the resource extraction activities.
Chapter (5)
Assessing Environmental and Social Impacts and Developing Remedial Measures

10. In accordance with the international standards, this Ministry shall collaborate with the local communities and relevant stakeholders on the interim people-centered resource management measures to assess, monitor and remediate the environmental and social impacts, and other forest land conflicts that were caused or are likely to be occurred by the unregulated production of natural resources, expansion of commercial and industrial plantations, agricultural land expansion, and the large-scale infrastructure development and extraction projects.

Chapter (6)
Monitoring and Taking Action

11. Regarding the exploitation, transportation, marketing of illegal forest resources and biological diversity and utilizing forest land,
   
   (a) Mechanism of monitoring and taking action will be developed with the collaboration and participation of the local people, civil society organizations (CSOs) and EROs.
   
   (b) The procedures and instructions for reporting system will be designed.
   
   (c) The lists of individuals, organizations and associations involved in the economic partnerships with the SAC will be announced occasionally, and the necessary actions to take the international sanctions will be taken.
   
   (d) Actions will be taken in accordance with the existing laws, rules and procedures issued by this Ministry.

12. Notifications, instructions, and procedures will be developed and issued for the management of forest resources and biodiversity seized by the administrative bodies under the direct administration of the NUG.
13. Public-centered resource management groups will be established to carry out the administrative activities, including monitoring and taking action.

**Chapter (7)**

**Human Resources Development, Research and Miscellaneous**

14. The following activities will be implemented in collaboration with the domestic and foreign professionals.

(a) Conducting the environmental and social research activities.

(b) Organizing the workshops for human resources development including trainings on the federal resource management.

(c) Educating and raising awareness of the public through public relations and social media working group.

(d) Establishing the implementation measures of the International Conventions and Agreements on forestry and environment, to which Myanmar is a party.

(e) Establishing the data archive to collect and maintain the information on forests, environment, biodiversity, climate and hydrology, watershed areas, and agriculture, topographical features and socio-economic conditions related to forests for both interim period and beyond.