The Forest Law

(The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 29, 2018)

The 11th Waxing day of Tawthalin, 1380 M.E.

(20 September, 2018)

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw hereby enacts this Law.

Chapter I

Title and Definition

- 1. This Law shall be called the Forest Law.
- 2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given below:
 - (a) **Government** means the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - (b) **Ministry** means the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of the Union Government;
 - (c) **Minister** means the Union Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation;
 - (d) **Director General** means the Director General of the Forest Department;
 - (e) Forest Settlement Officer means the township or district officer from the General Administration Department who inquires into in the prescribed manners and determines the public rights to be effected by the constitution of a reserved forest in the

- relevant area under this Law, and demarcates the reserved forest as a responsible person of the Scrutiny Body;
- (f) Forest Officer means the Head of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, Region, State, District or Township Forest Department;
- (g) Forest Staff means the forest administrative staff at different levels from a Forest Guard to the Director General of the Forest Department;
- (h) **Reserved Forest** means land constituted as a reserved forest under this Law;
- (i) **Protected Public Forest** means land declared to be a protected public forest under this Law;
- (j) **Forest Land** means land comprising reserved forests and protected public forests;
- (k) Land at the disposal of the Government means any land with the exception of land in which any government department, organization or any person has the right of cultivation, possession, use and occupancy, beneficial enjoyment, heritable right or transferable right under any existing law;
- (I) Forest product means trees, leaves, flowers, fruits, tubers and bulbs, orchids, other parasitic plants grown on or found in forest land or land at the disposal of the Government and their

- by-products. This expression also includes wild animals, insects, their parts and their by-products;
- (m) **Non-Timber Forest Product** means forest products declared as non-timber forest products under this Law;
- (n) **Tree** includes roots, stumps, stems, branches, bushes, creepers, bamboos, cane, orchids and seedlings;
- (o) **Reserved Tree** means teak trees and any trees declared as reserved trees under this Law;
- (p) Timber means trees which have fallen or which have been felled and wood or log, whether cut up, fashioned or hollowed out with the exception of bushes, creepers, bamboos, cane, orchids and seedlings;
- (q) **Firewood** means trees, parts or pieces of timber suitable only for use as fuel;
- (r) **Domestic Animal** means animals including elephants raised by human;
- (s) **Removal Pass** means a permit issued under this Law to move legally owned forest products from one township to another within the country;

- (t) **Permit** means an order permitting extraction of any forest product or an order permitting right of operation relating to forest products. This expression also includes an agreement executed to permit extraction of any forest product;
- (u) **Community Forestry** means any operation carried out according to the Community Forestry Instructions issued under this Law;
- (v) **Chainsaw means** a portable saw which can cut and saw trees, logs, posts, poles and timber lumber using a mechanical power.

Chapter II

Objectives

- 3. The objectives of this Law are:
 - (a) to implement the forest policy of the Government;
 - (b) to implement the policy of the Government related to natural resources and environmental conservation;
 - (c) to promote public cooperation in implementing the forest policy and the policy of the Government related to natural resources and environmental conservation;
 - (d) to support economic development of the State, to contribute towards the food, clothing and shelter needs of the public and to enjoy benefits perpetually through conservation and protection of forests;

- (e) to comply with the international agreements relating to conservation of forest, conservation of natural resources and environment, climate change and natural disaster risk reduction;
- (f) to prevent deforestation, biodiversity decline, fire outbreak, insects infestation and plant disease incidence;
- (g) to conserve natural forests and establish forest plantations simultaneously;
- (h) to contribute towards the fuel requirement of the State;
- (i) to implement sustainable forest management in order to support sustainable development.

Chapter III

Constitution of Reserved Forests and Declaration of Protected Public Forests

- 4. In order to conserve natural environment and to maintain a sustained yield of forest products, the Ministry may, with the comment of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Region or State Government and with the approval of the Union Government, constitute the following categories of reserved forest by demarcation on land at the disposal of the Government:
 - (a) reserved forest for commercial production;
 - (b) reserved forest for local supply;
 - (c) reserved forest for watershed or catchment protection;

- (d) reserved forest for environment and biodiversity conservation;
- (e) other categories of reserved forests.
- 5. The Ministry may, with the comment of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Region or State Government, and with the approval of the Union Government, declare any land at the disposal of the Government outside reserved forests, as a protected public forest by demarcating the boundaries for the following purposes:
 - (a) protection of water and soil;
 - (b) conservation of dry forests;
 - (c) conservation of mangrove forests;
 - (d) conservation of environment and biodiversity;
 - (e) conservation of forests for sustainable production of forest products.

6. The Ministry shall:

- (a) announce in the prescribed manner that it intends to constitute any land as a reserved forest or to declare any land as a protected public forest before constituting a reserved forest or declaring a protected public forest;
- (b) form a scrutiny body comprising local people and relevant experts led by a forest settlement officer to inquire into the public rights to be affected by constitution of a reserved forest

- in the relevant area in the prescribed manners, and to demarcate a reserved forest;
- (c) form a working group comprising local people and relevant experts led by the Director General to inquire into the public rights to be affected by the prohibitions contained in the declaration of a protected public forest, and to manage it in the prescribed manners;
- (d) issue a notification constituting a reserved forest in consideration of the report submitted through the Director General by the Forest Settlement Officer after carrying out the task under sub-section (b);
- (e) issue a notification declaring a protected public forest in consideration of the report submitted by the Director General after carrying out the task under sub-section (c).

- 7. The Ministry, with the comment of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Region or State Government and with the approval of the Union Government:
 - (a) may alter the category of the whole or a part of a reserved forest or cancel the category of a reserved forest or convert a reserved forest into a protected public forest;
 - (b) may cancel the whole or a part of a protected public forest which no longer needs to be conserved as a protected public forest;
 - (c) shall notify the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the constitution or declaration, cancellation and alteration of reserved forests and protected public forests;
 - (d) may recognize natural forests and mangrove forests conserved customarily or traditionally by the local people.
- 8. (a) Any standing teak tree wherever situated in the State is owned by the State.
 - (b) The Ministry may issue specific orders and directives, and grant legal ownership of teak trees registered with the respective Forest Department and planted in the following areas:
 - (i) the private teak plantation established in forest land with permission;

- (ii) the private teak plantation established outside forest land;
- (iii) the community forest;
- (iv) the private house compound;
- (v) the private owned land, public land, religious land, departmental land and land allocated to the military.
- (c) The Ministry may:
 - (i) declare, alter or cancel the species of reserved trees which are to be conserved by the Forest Department according to the locality;
 - (ii) declare, alter or cancel the groups of hard wood species.

Chapter IV

Forest Administration

- 9. The functions of the Forest Department are:
 - (a) implementation of the Myanmar forest policy of the Government;
 - (b) implementation of the plans relating to conservation of water, soil, biodiversity and environment, sustained yield of forest products and protection of forest covered land;

- (c) management of forest land in accordance with the provisions of this Law;
- (d) submission of proposals to the Ministry for constitution or declaration, alteration or cancellation of reserved forests, protected public forests and species of reserved trees;
- (e) upgrading forestry practices, forestry extension and human resource development in natural environment and forest sector;
- (f) upgrading forest management database system, inventorying forest resources and disseminating information to the public;
- (g) conducting forestry research;
- (h) supporting and supervising implementation of community forestry;
- (i) determining the payment for environmental services for doing business in forest land;
- (j) carrying out other forestry related tasks assigned by the Ministry.
- 10. In order to conserve forest and environment in accordance with the objectives of this Law, the Director General shall develop and submit the following plans to the Ministry:

- (a) plans related to the forest sector to be used as guidelines in government departments, organizations and private enterprises;
- (b) plans related to forest management.
- 11. The Director General shall, with regard to the plans contained in section 10:
 - (a) report work progress annually to the Ministry;
 - (b) review the plans from time to time and propose alteration to the plans to the Ministry, if required;
 - (c) conduct an inventory of forest resources in the prescribed manner every ten years.
- 12. Whoever, within forest land and forest covered land at the disposal of the Government:
 - (a) wishes to carry out any development work or economic scheme shall obtain prior approval of the Ministry;
 - (b) wishes to carry out educational or research work or conduct a training course or a study tour shall obtain prior permission of the Director General or the Forest Officer empowered by the Director General;

- (c) carries out any development work or economic scheme under sub-section (a) shall abide by the Environmental Conservation Law and other related laws;
- (d) wishes to carry out community forestry shall obtain prior permission of the Director General or the Forest Officer empowered by the Director General.

Chapter V

Establishment of Forest Plantations

- 13. The Director General may, with the approval of the Ministry, establish the following plantations on forest land or land at the disposal of the Government:
 - (a) commercial plantation;
 - (b) industrial plantation;
 - (c) watershed plantation;
 - (d) mangrove forest plantation;
 - (e) village firewood plantation;
 - (f) other plantation.
- 14. The Director General may grant permission to any person or any organization for the establishment and maintenance of the following private forest plantations on forest land in accordance with the stipulations:
 - (a) private forest plantation by inviting open tender with the approval of the Government through the Minister;
 - (b) private teak plantation with the approval of the Government through the Minister;
 - (c) perennial or industrial plantation or private hardwood plantation with the approval of the Minister.

- 15. The Director General may grant permission to establish the following village firewood plantations in a reserved forest or protected public forest or on land at the disposal of the Government in the vicinity of villages within the Union territory by prescribing terms and conditions:
 - (a) firewood plantation established by the Forest Department for a certain period and then transferred to the village for maintenance and use as its own;
 - (b) village firewood plantation established, maintained and used by the villages by collective labour.
- 16. A person having the right to extract forest products or natural resources on a commercial scale shall establish forest plantations or implement assisted natural regeneration for the State at his/her own expense under terms and conditions of the permit.

Chapter VI

Permission for Extraction of Forest Products

17. A forest product shall only be extracted after obtaining a permit. If the extraction of a forest product is for personal use such as domestic, agricultural or piscatorial use not on a commercial scale, it may be extracted without obtaining a permit in an amount not exceeding the quantity specified by the Ministry.

- 18. In permitting the extraction of forest products, the Forest Department shall use competitive bidding if the extraction is on a commercial scale. The extraction for the following purposes may be permitted without using the competitive bidding:
 - (a) where extraction of a forest product and sales in and outside the State are carried out by a State-owned enterprise;
 - (b) where the Ministry is empowered by the Government in respect of the extraction of a forest product;
 - (c) where a forest product is permitted to be extracted from private forest plantations and community forests;
 - (d) where a forest product is permitted to be extracted from reserved trees or teak trees to which ownership is granted under sub-section (b) of section 8;
 - (e) where a non-timber forest product is permitted to be extracted on a commercial scale with the exception of special restriction of the Forest Department;
 - (f) where a forest product is permitted to be extracted not on a commercial scale for the following works:-
 - (i) research and educational work;
 - (ii) work beneficial to the public or religion.
- 19. (a) In respect of permission for extraction of forest products on a commercial scale:

- (i) the Ministry may grant permission for a term up to 3 years;
- (ii) the Director General may grant permission for a term from 1 year to 2 years with the approval of the Ministry;
- (iii) the Region or State Forest Officer may grant permission for a term up to 1 year with the approval of the Director General.
- (b) The person granting permission for extraction of forest products under sub-section (a) may, for sufficient reason, extend the term of the permit for not more than 6 months at a time and not more than twice.
- 20. The Director General may, in respect of permission for extraction of forest products, determine the following with the approval of the Ministry:
 - (a) variety of non-timber forest products;
 - (b) the species and their annual allowable cut in the area which attains a prescribed rotation according to the District Forest Management Plan;
 - (c) rate of royalty and other fees;
 - (d) term of permit for each category of forest product;
 - (e) the quantity of each forest product to be extracted not on a commercial scale for personal uses such as domestic use,

- agricultural use, piscatorial use, research and educational work and work beneficial to the public or religion;
- (f) fine to be imposed for breach of terms and conditions of the permit;
- (g) terms and conditions.

21. A permit holder shall:

- (a) abide by the terms and conditions of the permit;
- (b) abide by the orders, directives and shall not violate prohibitions and restrictions issued by the Forest Department in accordance with this Law;
- (c) pay the royalties, security deposits or advances due;
- (d) affix the mark or the registered property-mark to the forest product after measuring it in the prescribed manner;
- (e) pay compensation determined by the Ministry for damage to natural environment or pollution caused by extraction of forest products.
- 22. The Forest Officer may permit the construction of charcoal kiln and conversion of royalty-paid firewood extracted from forest land or land at the disposal of the Government, into charcoal subject to prescribed terms and conditions.

Chapter VII

Removal of Forest Products

- 23. (a) A person who wants to move any forest product from one township to another within the State shall apply for a removal pass to the respective Forest Officer empowered by the Director General for this purpose. If it is furniture for personal use, the recommendation from the respective Forest Officer shall be obtained.
 - (b) The provision of sub-section (a) shall not apply to the following matters:
 - (i) moving forest products within the area permitted for extraction thereof;
 - (ii) moving non-timber forest products not exceeding the prescribed quantity and not for commercial purposes;
 - (iii) moving forest products from one township to another in a municipal area.
- 24. The Forest Department may establish the necessary revenue–stations to examine forest products (in transit) and to collect the royalties due.
- 25. A person moving a forest product shall:
 - (a) bring the removal pass;

- (b) accept examination of forest products conducted by forest staff at the relevant revenue-station and pay the royalty imposed.
- 26. (a) The Director General shall determine rafting stations where timber is to be rafted and floated;
 - (b) A person moving a forest product by raft shall float the raft starting from a rafting station in accordance with the stipulations.

Chapter VIII

Disposal of Drift, Stranded and Waif Timber

- 27. Raft or timber floating without control is considered drift timber.
- 28. (a) The following timber shall be considered waif timber unless and until any person establishes his or her right thereto within the specified period:
 - (i) timber found adrift, stranded or sunk;
 - (ii) timber to which a registered property mark has not been affixed;
 - (iii) timber on which a registered property mark has been obliterated.

- (b) The forest staff has the right to collect timber mentioned in subsection (a) and bring to the revenue stations or timber depots after registration.
- 29. The Forest Officer shall dispose of drift, stranded and waif timber in the prescribed manners.

Chapter IX

Establishment of Wood-Based Industry

- 30. A private entrepreneur who wishes to possess a chainsaw or establish a sawpit, sawmill, tongue-and-groove mill, plywood mill, veneer mill or wood-based industry or wood-based furniture industry or other wood-based industries prescribed by the notification of the Ministry, with the exception of a small wood-based industry and furniture workshop, has the right to possess or establish the same only after obtaining a permit from the Forest Officer empowered for this purpose.
- 31. The Director General may determine the rate of royalties, the terms and conditions of the permit for the purpose of section 30 with the approval of the Ministry.

Chapter X

Search, Arrest and Administrative Action

- 32. The Ministry shall define the powers of forest staff in the Forest Rule to search, arrest and seize illegal forest products, and disposal of exhibits.
- 33. (a) A Forest Officer empowered by the Director General may, with regard to the seized forest products, pass any of the following administrative orders against the possessor of the same :
 - (i) to pay a fine from a minimum of one hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of five hundred thousand kyats and confiscate the timber, in case of seizure of teak timber not exceeding one ton or timber from reserved trees other than teak timber not exceeding one ton;
 - (ii) to pay double price of the local value of the timber and a fine from a minimum of one hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of five hundred thousand kyats, and return the timber, in case of seizure of timber other than timber from teak tree or reserved trees not exceeding one ton;
 - (iii) to pay the local value of those forest products and a fine not exceeding three hundred thousand kyats and return the same, in case of seizure of forest products other than timber, local value of which does not exceed one hundred thousand kyats;
 - (iv) to pay double price of the local value for those immovable forest products and a fine not exceeding three hundred thousand kyats and return the same, in case of seizure of immovable forest products.

- (b) No legal proceeding shall be instituted under this Law against a person who abides by the order passed under sub-section (a). Legal proceeding shall only be instituted under this Law against a person who fails to abide by the order.
- 34. If a permit holder or his agent or worker violates any term and condition of the permit, the Forest Officer who seizes forest products shall informs the person granting the permit immediately and the latter may pass any of the following orders:
 - (a) directing such person to suspend the whole or any portion of the operation carried out under the permit;
 - (b) directing such person to pay a prescribed fine and permitting to continue the operation;
 - (c) cancelling the permit;
 - (d) cancelling the permit and confiscating the security deposit and advances and directing such person to pay the prescribed fine if necessary.
- 35. (a) The Forest Staff may keep the seized forest product in custody until and unless the royalties and fines payable to the Forest Department have been recovered.
 - (b) The Forest Officer shall dispose of the forest products kept in custody under sub-section (a) in the prescribed manner, in

case of failure to pay the royalties and fines within the specified period.

Chapter XI

Appeal

- 36. (a) A person dissatisfied with an order or decision made by the Township or District Forest Officer under this Law may file an appeal to the relevant Region or State Forest Officer as may be prescribed, within 30 days from the date of such order or decision.
 - (b) The Region or State Forest Officer may confirm, alter or set aside the order or decision made by the Township or District Forest Officer.
- 37. (a) A person dissatisfied with an order or decision made by the Region or State Forest Officer may file an appeal to the Director General within 60 days from the date of such order or decision.
 - (b) The Director General may confirm, alter or set aside the order or decision made by the Region or State Forest Officer.
- 38. (a) A person dissatisfied with an order or decision made by the Forest Settlement Officer or the Director General may file an appeal to the Minister within 60 days from the date of such order or decision.

- (b) The Minister may confirm, alter or set aside the order or decision made by the Forest Settlement Officer or the Director General.
- (c) The decision of the Minister shall be final and conclusive.

Chapter XII

Offences and Penalties

- 39. Whoever commits any of the following acts with regard to the removal of legally owned forest products shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine from a minimum of three hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of seven hundred thousand kyats, and the forest products shall be returned to the legal owner:
 - (a) moving forest products without a removal pass;
 - (b) moving forest products to other area than the destination described in the removal pass.
- 40. (a) Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with a fine not exceeding three hundred thousand kyats or with both:
 - (i) squatting or breeding domestic animals on forest land;
 - (ii) pasturing domestic animals in forest land or allowing domestic animals to trespass on forest land without permission;

- (iii) intentionally breaking up, clearing, digging forest land or causing damage to the original condition of forest land without permission;
- (iv) causing intentional damage to a watercourse in a forest land;
- (v) moving forest products without accepting the examination at the revenue station;
- (vi) using electric current, chemicals or explosives in the water, or poisoning the water in the forest land;
- (vii) extracting, moving or keeping in possession of any nontimber forest product without a permit with the exception of permission granted under any existing law.
- (b) An offender who violates any provision of clause (i), (ii) or (iii) of sub-section (a) shall be convicted and human, animals, movable or immovable materials in respect of which the offence has been committed shall be removed from forest land and handed over to the Ministry within 30 days from the day of such order or decision.
- 41. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or with a fine from a minimum of three hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of five hundred thousand kyats or with both:

- (a) extracting, moving, unlawfully keeping in possession of timber from any tree other than teak trees and reserved trees, without a permit;
- (b) damaging, girdling, felling, cutting or tapping any tree other than teak trees and reserved trees in forest land, without a permit;
- (c) selling forest products extracted under sub-section (f) of section 18 or utilizing the same in other works;
- (d) damaging the forest in forest land by fire;
- (e) destroying or damaging the forest plantation established by the Ministry or by any person or organization under permission of the Director General;
- (f) constructing a charcoal kiln or making charcoal without a permit.
- 42. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years or with a fine from a minimum of five hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of one million kyats or with both:
 - (a) felling, cutting, extracting, moving or unlawfully keeping in possession of reserved trees other than teak trees, without a permit;

- (b) establishing a saw pit, saw-mill, tongue-and-groove mill, plywood mill, veneer mill or wood-based industry other than a small wood-based industry and furniture workshop or keeping in possession of chainsaw, without a permit.
- 43. (a) Whoever extracts, moves or keeps in possession of over one ton of teak timber without a permit shall be punished with imprisonment for a term from a minimum of five years to a maximum of 15 years and shall also be punished with a fine not exceeding three million kyats.
 - (b) Whoever girdles, fells or cuts any teak tree in forest land or land at the disposal of the Government without a permit shall be punished with imprisonment for a term from a minimum of five years to a maximum of 15 years and shall also be punished with a fine not exceeding three million kyats;
 - (c) Whoever girdles, fells or cuts any teak tree standing in land other than forest land or land at the disposal of the Government, or any teak tree other than teak trees to which ownership is granted under sub-section (b) of section 8 without a permit shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or with a fine from a minimum of two hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of six hundred thousand kyats or with both.

- (d) Whoever damages by any means, marks, lops or taps any unregistered teak tree other than teak trees to which ownership is granted under sub-section (b) of section 8 without a permit shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with a fine from a minimum of two hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of three hundred thousand kyats or with both.
- (e) Whoever girdles, fells or cuts any teak tree to which ownership is granted under sub-section (b) of section 8 without a permit shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with a fine from a minimum of fifty thousand kyats to a maximum of one hundred thousand kyats or with both.
- 44. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or with a fine from a minimum of three hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of one million kyats or with both:
 - (a) keeping in possession of or counterfeiting a marking hammer used by forest staff, keeping in possession of a counterfeit marking hammer or affixing a mark to any forest product with counterfeit marking hammer;

- (b) unlawfully affixing a mark to any forest product with a marking hammer used by the forest staff or with a property marking hammer;
- (c) altering, defacing or obliterating any mark of any forest product affixed by the forest staff or a person delegated by the forest staff;
- (d) altering, moving, destroying or defacing any boundary-mark of forest land without permission.
- 45. Any forest staff who wrongfully seizes any forest product of any person by misusing the power conferred on them under this Law, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with a fine from a minimum of thirty thousand kyats to a maximum of one hundred thousand kyats or with both. The person whose property has been wrongfully seized may be paid the whole or any portion of the fine as damages.
- 46. Any forest staff who abuses of power and accepts cash or kind from any person and conspires in illegal extraction, unlawful removal or possession of forest products, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term from a minimum of one year to a maximum of ten years.

- 47. The Court shall, with regard to any legal proceeding instituted under this Law other than section 39, punish the offender for the relevant offence and:
 - (a) shall pass an order to confiscate all forest products related to the offence;
 - (b) may pass an order to confiscate vehicles, animals and other machinery and tools used in the commission of the offence;
 - (c) shall pass an order to pay compensation for loss and damage caused by commission of the offence to the Forest Department.

Chapter XIII

Miscellaneous

- 48. The offences contained in Chapter XII of this Law are determined as cognizable offences.
- 49. The Court shall hand-over the confiscated forest products to the Forest Department.
- 50. (a) The Minister may delegate the powers conferred on the Ministry under this Law to the Director General.
 - (b) The Director General may delegate the powers conferred on him under this Law to the Forest Officers.

- 51. The Ministry has the right to designate, by notification with the approval of the Government, the uniform for the forest staff and armed equipment, tools and implements which forest staff are authorized to use under this Law in order to protect and support themselves in carrying out search, arrest and field operations.
- 52. All money payable to the Forest Department under this Law shall be recovered as if it were an arrear of land revenue. A Forest Officer assigned by the Ministry for this purpose shall exercise the powers of a Collector under the existing laws.
- 53. The Myanmar Police Force shall provide necessary assistance to the forest staff in performing their duties when the forest staff request any assistance.
- 54. In a case where administrative action is taken or, in a case where a legal proceeding is instituted under this Law, the burden of proof for legal ownership or lawful right of possession with regard to forest products shall lie on the person against whom action is taken.
- 55. The reserved forests and the protected public forests existing under the Forest Law, 1992 (The State Law and Order Restoration Council Law No. 8/92), shall be considered the reserved forests and the protected public forests constituted under this Law.

- 56. The rules, notifications and directives issued under the Forest Law, 1992 (The State Law and Order Restoration Council Law No. 8/92), may continue to be applicable in so far as they are not contrary to this Law.
- 57. In implementing the provisions of this Law:
 - (a) the Ministry may issue rules and regulations with the approval of the Government;
 - (b) the Ministry and Forest Department may issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.
- 58. The Forest Law, 1992 (The State Law and Order Restoration Council Law No. 8/92) is repealed by this Law.

I hereby sign under the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

(Sd.) Win Myint

President

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar