The Law Amending the Law Relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development

(The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 13, 2018)

The 8th Waning Day of Nayon, 1380 M.E

(6th June, 2018)

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw hereby enacts this Law:

Chapter I Title and Definition

1. This Law shall be called **the Early Childhood Care and Development Work Law.**¹

2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meaning given hereunder:

- (a) **Early child** means a person of a newly born to one who has attained the age of eight years;
- (b) **Day care centre** means a department, school or programme which nurtures the early-children who have attained the age of six months to under three years of age to obtain the holistic development including physical, intellectual, moral, social, emotional, nutrition and health aspects of development;
- (c) **Preschool** means a department, school or programme which nurtures the early-children who have attained the age of three years to under six years of age, and the early children who have not enrolled in a kindergarten although having attained the age of five years to obtain the holistic development including physical, intellectual, moral, social, emotional aspects of development, and to obtain the good habits for life; ²
- (d) **Guideline of caring for children under three years of age** means the guideline issued by the Ministry to obtain holistic development including physical, intellectual, moral, social, emotional, nutrition and health aspects of development of children under three years of age;
- (e) **Preschool curricula** means the curricula issued by the Ministry to obtain the holistic development including physical, intellectual, moral, social, emotional aspects of development and to obtain good habits, for life for the early-children who have attained the age of three years to under six years of age;²

¹ Substitute by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

² Ditto.

- (f) Preschool class means the preschool class attached and established at the basic education schools according to the programme for upgrading education of the Ministry of Education of the Union Government;
- (g) **Community-based programme** means the early childhood care and development programme carried out with aid or management of private and non-governmental organization from local or international in their wards or village by the public;
- (h) Home-based programme means the early childhood care and development programme carried out with aid or management of private and nongovernmental organization from local or international in an adjacent house by gathering the early children where is created secure place and a good motivated learning environment by a volunteer mother or mothers;
- (i) **Permit for establishment** means the registered permit issued under this Law for allowing to establish the day care center or preschool;
- (j) **Permission** means the permission issued under this Law allowing to carry out the community-based programme or home-based programme;
- (k) **Ministry** means the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of the Union;
- (1) **Minister** means the Minister for the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement;
- (m) Central Supervisory Body means the Central Supervisory Body for the Early Childhood Care and Development Programme formed under this Law;
- (n) **Region or State Supervisory Body** means the Region or State Supervisory Body for the Early Childhood Care and Development Programme formed under this Law.

Chapter II

Objectives

- 3. The objectives of this Law are as follows:
 - (a) to nurture the early child for obtaining holistic development such as physical, intellectual, moral, social aspects based on correct awareness in accord with the development standards of the child;
 - (b) to extend the day care centres, preschools, community-based programme and home-based programme in the whole country systematically and to provide the technical and administrative support to nurture the early children;
 - (c) to support the human development by permission to establish day care centres and preschools formed by local and international private organizations and non-governmental organizations systematically;

(d) to provide the rights of basic health care, development, protection and participation to the early children with special needs.

Chapter III Formation of the Central Supervisory Body

- 4. The Union Government:
 - (a) shall form the Central Supervisory Body for the Early Childhood Care and Development with the following persons:

(1)	Union Minister, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement	-	Chairman
(2)	Deputy- Minister, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement	-	Vice-Chairman
(3)	Director General, Department of General Administration, Ministry of Home Affairs ³	-	Member
(4)	Director General, Department of Education, Planning and Training, Ministry of Education ⁴	-	Member
(5)	Director General, Department of Health, Ministry of Health ⁵	-	Member
(6)	Director General, Department of Religious Affairs, Ministry of Religious Affairs ⁶	-	Member
(7)	Director General, Department of Information and Relation, Ministry of Information	-	Member
(8)	Chairman, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association	-	Member
(9)	Suitable representatives from volunteer Social-welfare organizations	-	Member
(10)	Director General, Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement	-	Secretary
(11)	Deputy Director General, Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement	-	Joint-Secretary

- ⁴ Ditto.
- ⁵ Ditto.

 $^{^3}$ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

⁶ Ditto.

(b) may reform the Central Supervisory Body formed under sub section (a), if it is necessary.

5. The Central Supervisory Body shall perform the following functions and exercise powers including the functions and powers assigned by this Law:⁷

- (a) managing to provide technical assistance and awareness which are related to the early childhood care and development;
- (b) making arrangement to extend the day care centres, preschools, communitybased programme and home-based programme in the whole country not only in the towns but also up to village level and providing appropriate assistance;
- (c) cooperating and coordinating the relevant government departments, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and volunteers for the early-childhood development;
- (d) forming the Region or State Supervisory Bodies for the early childhood care and development programme and determining the functions and powers thereof;
- (e) issuing permit for the establishment for the day care centres and preschools and permission for the community-based and home-based programme to the private and non-governmental organization from abroad;
- (f) supervising and inspecting the day care centres and preschools, the community-based and home-based programme which are established by the private and non-governmental organization from local and abroad;
- (g) giving guidance and supervising for providing assistance to obtain the rights of basic health care, development, protection and participation to the early children with special needs;
- (h) laying down and carrying out providing of the supplementary nutrition programme for the early children and giving providing assistance to the twins' mothers and their children;
- (i) supervising the services and allocating the fund established under this law in early childhood care and development services.

Chapter IV

Formation of the Region or State Supervisory Body

- 6. The Central Supervisory Body coordinating with the Region or State Government:
 - (a) shall form the Region or State Supervisory Body for the Early Childhood Care and Development with the following persons:

⁷ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

	(1)	One Minister assigned responsibility by Chief Minister of the Region or State	-	Chairman
	(2)	One representative from Region or State General Administration Department	- nt	Member
	(3)	One representative from Region or State Educational Office	-	Member
	(4)	One representative from Region or State Health Department	-	Member
	(5)	One representative from Region or State Religious Affairs Department	-	Member
	(6)	One representative from Region or State Information and Relation Department	-	Member
	(7)	One representative from Region or State Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association	-	Member
	(8)	Representatives from suitable Voluntary Social Organization	-	Member
	(9)	Region or State Social Welfare Officer	-	Secretary
`	mayr	aform the Pagion or State Supervisory	Rody formed	under sub

(b) may reform the Region or State Supervisory Body formed under sub section(a), if it is necessary.

7. The Region or State Supervisory Body shall perform the following functions and exercise powers including the functions and powers assigned by this Law: ⁸

- (a) managing to provide technical assistance and awareness on early childhood care and development in the Region or State;
- (b) supervising and inspecting the day care centres and preschools, the community-based and home-based programme which are established by the person or organization within the relevant Region or State and, private and non-governmental organization from abroad coordinated by the Central Supervisory Body;
- (c) accepting suggestions and submissions of parent, guardian and community leaders regarding the work for early childhood care and coordinating with them as may be necessary.⁹

⁸ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

 $^{^{9}}$ Inserted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

Chapter V Day Care Centres and Preschools

- 8. (a) If the foreign private and non-governmental organization desire to establish the day care centre or preschool for commercial purposes or not, they shall apply to the relevant Region or State Social Welfare Office to obtain the permit for establishment in accordance with the stipulations.
 - (b) If the domestic private and non-governmental organization desire to establish the day care centre or preschool for the commercial purposes, they shall apply to the relevant Region or State Social Welfare Office to obtain the permit for establishment in accordance with the stipulations.
 - (c) If the domestic private and non-governmental organization desire to establish the day care centre or preschool for not commercial purposes, they shall apply to the Region or State Social Welfare Office through the relevant Township Social Welfare Office or Township General Administration Department to obtain the permit for establishment in accordance with the Stipulations. ¹⁰
- 9. The Region or State Social Welfare Office shall;
 - (a) scrutinize the application under sub-section (a) and (b) of section 8 and submit it with remarks to the Region or State Supervisory Body;
 - (b) scrutinize the application under sub-section (c) of section 8 and may issue or refuse to issue the permit for establishment. The permit for establishment shall be issued in accordance with stipulations if it is permitted.¹¹

10. After scrutinizing when receiving the application of Region or State Social Welfare Office under sub-section (a) of section 9, ¹² the Region or State Supervisory Body:

- (a) shall, if it is the application from private and non-governmental organization from abroad, submit with its remarks to the Supervisory Body through the Department of Social Welfare;
- (b) may allow or refuse to issue the permit for establishment if the domestic private and non- governmental organizations apply to establish for commercial purposes. The permit for establishment shall be issued in accordance with stipulations if it is permitted;¹³
- (c) shall cause to pay registration fees before issuing the permit for establishment under sub section (b);

¹⁰ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

¹¹ Ditto.

¹² Ditto.

¹³ Ditto.

- (d) shall prescribe registration fees, renewal fees of permit for establishment and other fees with the approval of Region or State Government.
- 11. The Central Supervisory Body:
 - (a) may allow or refuse to issue the permit for establishment regarding application under sub section (a) of section 10;
 - (b) shall cause to pay the registration fees before issuing, if it is to issue the permit for establishment under sub section (a);
 - (c) shall prescribe registration fees, renewal fees of permit for establishment and other fees with the approval of the Union Government.

12. The Central Supervisory Body shall prescribe the permit for establishment to the private individual and non-governmental organization from abroad in accordance with terms and stipulation, if it is allowed to establish the day care centre and preschool.

- 13. (a) If the domestic and foreign private and non-governmental organizations which have received the permit for establishment under sub-section (b) of section 10 and sub-section (a) of section 11 desire to renew the permit for establishment, they shall apply to the relevant Region or State Social Welfare Office at least 30 days in advance before the expiry of the term in accordance with stipulations;
 - (b) If the domestic private and non-governmental organizations which have received the permit for establishment under sub-section (b) of section 9 desire to renew the permit for establishment, they shall apply to the Region or State Social Welfare Office through the relevant Township Social Welfare Office or Township General Administration Department at least 30 days in advance before the expiry of the term in accordance with stipulations.¹⁴
- 14. The Region or State Social Welfare Office shall:
 - (a) scrutinize the application under sub-section (a) of section 13 and submit it with its remarks to the Region or State Supervisory Body;
 - (b) scrutinize the application under sub-section (b) of section 13 and may allow or refuse to renew the permit for establishment.¹⁵

15. After receiving the application under sub-section (a) of section 14¹⁶ and scrutinizing the submission, the Region or State Supervisory Body:

¹⁴ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

¹⁵ Ditto.

¹⁶ Ditto.

- (a) shall, if it is private individual or non-governmental organization from abroad which has received the permit for establishment, submit application for renewal of the permit for establishment with its remarks to the Central Supervisory Body through the Department of Social Welfare;
- (b) may, if it is private individual or non-governmental organization from local, allow or refuse the renewal of the permit for establishment;
- (c) shall, if it is allowed the renewal under sub section (b), cause to pay the renewal fees before such renewal.
- 16. The Central Supervisory Body:
 - (a) may allow or refuse the renewal of the permit for establishment after scrutinizing the application under sub section (a) of section 15;
 - (b) shall issue the permit after causing to pay the renewal fees if it is allowed the renewal under sub section (a);

Chapter VI

The Stipulations for the Day Care Centre and Preschools

- 17. In operating a day care centre:
 - (a) the headmaster in-charge shall have attained the age of 25 years and obtain any degree or diploma relating to child expertise or, fulfill the educational qualification accepted by the Department of Social Welfare in accord with the relevant local situation;
 - (b) the headmaster in-charge and at least one teacher shall be the persons who have attended and completed the training course on care of the children under three years of age opened by the Department of Social Welfare or accepted as suitable by the said Department;
 - (c) the early child shall be cared in accord with the specific directives in addition to the guidance on care of children under three years of age;
 - (d) appropriate place to sleep and materials to play for the children under one year of age and appropriate place and materials for the children under three years of age shall be arranged and kept;
 - (e) it shall have three children under two years of age per one teacher and six children from two years of age to three years of age per teacher;
 - (f) the building to be operated as the day care centre shall be 18 square feet per one early child;
 - (g) it shall be in conformity with the facts stipulated from time to time by the Department of Social Welfare.

- 18. In operating the preschool:
 - (a) the headmaster in-charge shall have attained 25 years of age and obtain any degree or diploma certificate relating to child expertise or, according to the relevant local situation, fulfill the educational qualifications accepted by the Department of Social Welfare;
 - (b) the headmaster in-charge and at least one teacher shall be the persons who have attended and completed the preschool teacher training course supervised and opened by the Department of Social Welfare or accepted as suitable by the said Department;
 - (c) The early child shall be care in accord with the curricula on the holistic development of preschool children, teacher's guide and specific directives;
 - (d) it shall have fifteen children from three years of age to five years of age per one teacher;
 - (e) the building to be operated as the preschool shall be at least 18 square feet per one early child;
 - (f) it shall be in conformity with the facts stipulated from time to time by the Department of Social Welfare.

Chapter VII Community-based or Home-based Programmes

- (a) If the foreign private and non-governmental organizations desire to establish the community-based or home-based programme for commerical purposes or not, they shall apply to the relevant Region or State Social Welfare Office to obtain the permit in accordance with the Stipulations;
 - (b) If the domestic private and non-governmental organizations desire to establish the community-based or home-based programme for commercial purposes, they shall apply to the relevant Region or State Social Welfare Office to obtain the permit in accordance with the Stipulations.
 - (c) If the domestic private and non-governmental organizations desire to establish the community-based or home-based programme for not commercial purposes, they shall apply to the Region or State Social Welfare Office through the relevant Township Social Welfare Office or Township General Administration Office to obtain the permit in accordance with the Stipulations.¹⁷

¹⁷ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

- 20. The Region or State Social Welfare Office shall:
 - (a) scrutinize the application under sub-section (a) and (b) of section 19 and submit it with its remarks to the Region or State Supervisory Body;
 - (b) scrutinize the application under sub-section (c) of section 19 and may allow or refuse to issue the permit. The permit shall issue in accordance with the Stipulations if it is permitted.¹⁸
- 21. The Region or State Supervisory Body:
 - (a) after receiving the application and scrutinizing the submission under subsection (a) of section 20¹⁹ by the Region or State Social Welfare Office;
 - shall submit to the Supervisory Body though the Department of Social Welfare with its remarks if it is the application submitted from private and non-governmental organization from abroad;
 - (2) may allow or refuse to issue the permit for establishment in accord with the terms and Stipulations if it is the application submitted from domestic private and non-governmental organization which is desired to establish for commercial purpose.²⁰
 - (3) shall cause to pay the annual fees for permission under sub- section (2).
 - (b) shall prescribe the annual fees for permission with the approval of the Region or State Government.
- 22. The Central Supervisory Body:
 - (a) may issue or refuse the permit by prescribing the terms and conditions of permit after scrutinizing the application submitted by the foreign private individual and non-governmental organizations under clause (i) of sub-section (a) of section 21; ²¹
 - (b) shall cause to pay the annual fees if it is to issue the permission under sub section (a);
 - (c) shall prescribe the annual fees for the permission with the approval of the Union Government.
- 23. (Cancelled) 22
- 24. (a) The domestic and foreign private and non-governmental organizations which have received the permit under clause (ii) of sub-section (a) of section 21 and

¹⁸ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

¹⁹ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

²⁰ Inserted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

²¹ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

²² Deleted by Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

sub-section (a) of section 22 shall apply to the relevant Region or State Social Welfare Office at least 30 days in advance before the expiry of the term in accordance with stipulations if they desire to renew the term of permit;

- (b) The domestic private and non-governmental organizations which have received the permit under sub-section (b) of section 20 shall apply to the Region of State Social Welfare Office through the relevant Township Social Welfare Office or Township General Administration Department at least30 days in advance before the expiry of the term in accordance with stipulations if they desire to renew the term of permit.²³
- 25. The Region or State Social Welfare Office shall:
 - (a) scrutinize the application under sub-section (a) of section 24 and submit it with remarks to the Region or State Supervisory Body;
 - (b) scrutinize the application under sub-section (b) of section 24 and may allow or refuse to renew the permit. ²⁴

26. The Region or State Supervisory Body, after receiving the application and scrutinizing the submission under sub-section (a) of section 25: ²⁵

- (a) shall submit the application submitted by the private or non-governmental organization from abroad to the Central Supervisory Body through the Department of Social Welfare with its remarks;
- (b) may allow or refuse the submitted application by private and nongovernmental organization from local the renewal of the permission;
- (c) shall cause to pay the renewal fees before expiration of the term of the permission if it is allowed the renewal under sub section (b).
- 27. The Central Supervisory Body:
 - (a) may allow or refuse the renewal of permission after scrutinizing the application under sub section (a) of section 26;
 - (b) shall cause to pay the renewal fees if it is allowed the renewal under sub section (a).
- 28. In operating the community-based or home-based programme;
 - (a) the nurturing and training services focus on the early childhood care and development in community shall be carried out;
 - (b) headmaster in-charge shall pass at least the basic education middle level;

²³ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

²⁴ Ditto

²⁵ Ditto

- (c) it shall have child care place or home in the community meat, secure and appropriate area in the community;
- (d) it shall have the clean and hygienic toilet;
- (e) it shall be in conformity with the facts stipulated by the Department of Social Welfare , from time to time.

Chapter VIII Taking Administrative Action

29. If the Region or State Supervisory Body found the private and non-governmental organization from local which has received the permit for establishment or permission has failed to abide by any relevant Stipulations contained in sections 17, 18 and 28 or any terms and condition in the order for establishment, the following any administrative order may be laid down:

- (a) warning and being imposed a fine as stipulated;
- (b) suspending the permit for establishment or permission for a limited period;
- (c) cancelling the permit for establishment or permission.

30. If the Central Supervisory Body found that the private individual and nongovernmental organization which has received the permit for establishment or permission from abroad has failed to abide by any relevant stipulation contained in sections 17, 18 and 28, or any term and condition in the order for establishment, the following any administrative order may be laid down;

- (a) warning and being imposed a fine as stipulated;
- (b) suspending the permit for establishment or permission for a limited period;
- (c) cancelling the permit for establishment or permission.

Chapter IX Appeal

- (a) A person dissatisfied with an order or decision of the Region or State Supervisory Body under section 29 in respect of day care centre, preschool or the community-based and home-based programme carried out by the private or a non-governmental organization from local may file an appeal to the Central Supervisory Body in accord with the Stipulations within 30 days from the date of receipt of such order or decision.
 - (b) In filing an appeal under sub-section (a), the Central Supervisory Body may confirm, amend or cancel the order or decision of the Region or State Supervisory Body.

- 32. (a) A person dissatisfied with an order or decision of the Central Supervisory Body under section 30 in respect of day care centre or preschool, or the community-based or home-based programme carried out by the private or a non-governmental organization from abroad may file an appeal to the Minister in accord with the Stipulations within 30 days from the date of receipt of such order or decision.
 - (b) In filing an appeal under sub-section (a), the Minister may confirm, amend or cancel the order or decision of the Central Supervisory Body. The decision of the Minister shall be conclusive.

Chapter X Offences and Penalties

33. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with fine or with both:

- (a) establishing day care centre or preschool required to apply the permit for establishment under sub-section (a) and (b) of section 8 without the permit for establishment; ²⁶
- (b) establishing day care centre or preschool during the period in which the permit for establishment issued under sub-section (b) of section 10 and sub-section (a) of section 11,²⁷ which is revoked for a limited period or after being cancelled.

33A. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with fine not exceeding five lakhs kyat:

- (a) establishing the day care centre or preschool required to apply the permit for establishment under sub-section (c) of section 8 without the permit for establishment;
- (b) establishing the day care centre or preschool during the period in which the permit for establishment issued under sub-section (b) of section 9, which is revoked for a limited period or after the cancellation of the permit for establishment;²⁸

34. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with fine not exceeding ten hundred thousand kyats:

²⁶ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

²⁷ Inserted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

- (a) carrying out the community-based or home-based programme required to apply the permission under sub-section (a) and (b) of section 19, without permission; ²⁹
- (b) carrying out the community-based or home-based programme during the period of the permission issued under clause (ii) of sub-section (a) of section 21 and sub-section (a) of section 22, ³⁰ which is revoked for a limited period, or after being cancelled.

34A. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with fine not exceeding three hundred thousand kyats:

- (a) undertaking the community-based or home-based programme required to apply the permission under sub-section (c) of section 19 without permission;
- (b) undertaking the community-based or home-based programme during the period in which the permission issued under sub-section (b) of section 20, is revoked for a limited period or after the cancellation of the permission.³¹

Chapter XI Setting up, Maintaining and Using of Fund

- 35. The Central Supervisory Body:
 - (a) shall set up a fund with the following income for the development of the day care centre, preschool, community-based and home-based programme;
 - (1) registration fees, renewal fees of permit for establishment, fine and other fees in accord with administrative order under this law;
 - (2) donated fund by the United Nations, Regional organization and nongovernmental organization and donors from local and abroad.
 - (b) may use funds established under sub-section (a)³² with the consent of the Minister.

36. The Central Supervisory Body shall apply necessary financial rules, regulations and procedures regarding to the maintenance, disposing, compiling the data, auditing of fund in accordance with Stipulations after consulting with the Union Auditor General's Office.

³² Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

²⁹ Substituted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/ 2018).

³⁰ Inserted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

³¹ Inserted by the Law amending the law relating to the Early Childhood Care and Development (Law No. 13/2018).

Chapter XII Miscellaneous

37. The Central Supervisory Body shall use effectively donated fund, materials and techniques from the United Nations, regional organization and non-governmental organization, donors from local and abroad in accord with the project activities for development of the day care centre, preschool, community-based services or home-based services.

38. The person who has established the day care centre or preschool under the registration certificate issued under the existing Child Law by the Department of Social Welfare is desirous to continue to establish his day care centre or preschool shall apply for the permit for establishment in accord with the provisions of this Law within 30 days from the date of its enactment.

39. In the prosecuting offences under this law, the prior sanction of the Head of the Region or State Social Welfare Office shall be obtained.

- 40. In implementing the provisions of this Law:
 - (a) the Ministry may issue rules with the approval of the Union Government;
 - (b) The Central Supervisory Body and Department of Social Welfare may issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures as may be necessary.

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