

CAM Statement: CAM Welcomes the Release of the USCIRF Annual Report

May 13, 2024

Washington, D.C. – On May 1, 2024, the U.S. Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) released their <u>Annual Report for 2024</u> with new recommendations for U.S. Policy. CAM welcomes the report and extends appreciation to USCIRF for citing CAM and CAM's work in the report. In their "Activities" section, <u>page 20</u>, they highlighted <u>the hearing, Two Years After</u> the Coup: Religious Freedom in Contested Burma, at which CAM Executive Director Zo Tum Hmung testified. The annual report also cited the article in Christianity Today written by CAM's Zo Tum Hmung and John Indergaard. The article, "<u>Myanmar's Christians: As Our Churches Burn</u> and People Flee, We Need the US's Help," underscores the targeting and persecution of Christian ethnic minorities in Burma, including through the mass arson campaign of majority Christian community of Thantlang Town that displaced the entire population of 10,000.

CAM supports the recommendations in the USCIRF Annual Report, including:

1. For the redesignation of Burma as a "country of particular concern" for engaging in systematic, ongoing, and egregious violations of religious freedom;

2. to engage with prodemocracy Burmese opposition, including the NUG and other ethnic organizations; and

3. to hold hearings with U.S. Congress on the implementation of the BURMA Act, including justice and accountability mechanisms for Rohingya and other persecuted religious minorities.

Contact: Zo Tum Hmung 443-936-8616 zotumhmung@chinmd.org