

The National League for Democracy will not remove its signboard and flag from party headquarters even though it is set to be dissolved on May 6

RANGOON — The National League for Democracy (NLD) will not remove its signboard and flag from party headquarters even though it is set to be dissolved when the deadline for party registration expires on May 6, said the NLD central executive committee statement on Monday.

“We decided unanimously not to take down the party signboard and flag,” said NLD spokesperson Nyan Win.

Ohn Kyaing, an NLD information committee member, said that in accordance with Aung San Suu Kyi's guidance, in the future the party would focus on non-political as well as political activities.

“For the benefit of our people, we will continue to work on social activities as much as we can,” Ohn Kyaing told *The Irrawaddy*.

He repeated that the NLD would not re-register to contest the election because it could not accept the 2008 Constitution, and so eventually the party would have to stop its political activities.

He added, however, that the party's decision to keep its signboard and flag was intended to show that the NLD still paid serious attention to the people, still existed for the people and still considered its duties not yet completed.

“We want the people to know that we still have the will to work for them—we haven't achieved what we wanted, and we still have work to do,” said Ohn Kyaing.

Dr. May Win Myint of the NLD's women's wing said that until May 4 the party will continue to meet in front of the NLD's headquarters to offer food to monks and prayers for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners. She said that future plans will be announced after a meeting on May 4.

Details of the NLD's social activities also will be available after May 4, sources close to the party said.

Meanwhile the European Unions Foreign Affairs Council, meeting in Luxembourg discussing a number of international issues like Afghanistan, Sudan, Kyrgyzstan, and Burma, expresses its serious concerns on the Burmese election laws as published in early March, saying precondition of the elections “do not provide for free and fair elections and notes that the authorities of Burma/Myanmar still have to take the steps necessary to make the planned elections later this year a credible, transparent and inclusive process.

According to the statement released on Monday, the council reiterates its call for the release of the political prisoners, including Suu Kyi.