

# Ministry of International Cooperation (MOIC) National Unity Government (NUG) Republic of the Union of Myanmar

H.E. Dr. Sasa Union Minister of the MOIC and Spokesperson of the NUG welcomes new UK sanctions against the Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Myanmar Pearl Enterprise and the State Administration Council- SAC

### 22 June 2021

H.E. Dr. Sasa, Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation and Spokesperson of the National Unity Government of Myanmar greatly welcomes the further UK sanctions on companies linked to Myanmar's military regime as announced by Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab. This will be a huge blow to the cashflow of the junta by restricting the military junta's ability to profit from key resources such as timber and pearl, and is another big step in ending the violence and bloodshed across the country. The press release is as follows:

"In the UK's sixth tranche of Myanmar sanctions, measures announced today will target the Myanmar regime's economic interest with new designations against the State Administration Council (SAC), the junta's ruling body, who continue to undermine democracy and brutally suppress Myanmar's civilians. These sanctions send a clear message to the junta the UK will not allow financial support that props up the military regime following the coup earlier this year.

Additional measures will now be imposed on the Myanmar Timber Enterprise and Myanmar Pearl Enterprise, 2 state owned entities in Myanmar's extractive sector. These asset freezes will be enforced with immediate effect, and target the junta's ability to profit from pearl and timber, 2 high-value natural commodities that generate millions in revenue for the military regime.

Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said:

Alongside our allies, we are placing sanctions on companies linked to Myanmar's military junta, targeting the finances of this illegitimate regime.

The military has continued its subversion of democracy and brutal killing of civilians. We will continue to hold the Junta to account and sanction those responsible, until democracy is restored.

Today the Foreign Secretary has also announced the conclusion of the UK's Myanmar Trade Review. In a Written Ministerial Statement in Parliament, he confirmed that the UK will maintain its suspension on trade promotion in Myanmar first imposed following the coup earlier this year.

The UK will also strengthen our <u>Overseas Business Risk guidance</u> to reiterate the message that UK businesses must undertake enhanced supply chain due diligence and should not enter into trading relationships that benefit the Myanmar military.

The Myanmar Trade Review emphasised that UK businesses continue to have an important role to play in Myanmar in job creation and poverty alleviation, but should operate responsibly in order to avoid inadvertently supporting the military regime.

Today's new sanctions announcement, alongside the similar announcement from the European Union on Myanmar Timber Enterprise, follows the recent G7 communique which called on partners and business to exercise due diligence in their trade and investment in Myanmar. Under the UK's presidency the G7 continues to call for an end to the coup and the immediate adoption of the ASEAN 5-point consensus."

## H.E. Dr. Sasa stated:

"Today I would again like to express my sincere thanks to the United Kingdom for taking a lead and being an advocate and voice for the people of Myanmar both in the G7 summit and UN Security Council, and imposing even stronger targeted sanctions against military junta linked entities and commodities. The UK is a steadfast supporter of our democratic transition, and I want to extend my most sincere thanks on behalf of the 54 million citizens of Myanmar for the continued support and solidarity of the United Kingdom with the people of Myanmar.

I continue to appeal to all nations around the globe to join with us, and support us, the people and rightfully elected National Unity Government of Myanmar and help us end this cruel and unlawful military junta ('SAC') occupation. We especially urge all nations to completely cease engagement with the Military and all its entities, both directly and indirectly, and put yet tougher coordinated, targeted and more widespread sanctions both diplomatically and economically. Every moment that these tougher measures are delayed, more and more lives are lost, and thousands are displaced from their homes in Myanmar, losing everything they own. We need your help to stop this now, once and for all, and together build a true federal democratic union for ALL people of Myanmar.

Thank you for strongly standing with the 54 million brave people of Myanmar in this darkest time in the history of our nation. The recognition of our voice, and your support, will ensure that we remain as your faithful allies, friends, and economic partners for generations to come."

# H.E. Dr. Sasa

Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation Spokesperson of the National Unity Government of Myanmar Former Myanmar Special Envoy to the United Nations

# Read the full press release:

https://www.gov.uk/govemment/news/foreign-secretary-announces-further-sanctions-on-companies-linked-to-myanmars-military-regime