

## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Unity Government The speech to international Community By H.E Daw Zin Mar Aung Union Minister of Foreign Affairs

July 30, 2022

Dear Friends of Myanmar the world over who stand with us in solidarity

I address you today as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on behalf of the National Unity Government, and as a parliamentarian elected to office by the express will of the people.

August 1<sup>st</sup> marked 18 months of the people's revolution. Eighteen months of shared struggle of resistance, of national unity against an illegal military junta bent on destroying this great beautiful nation.

The darkest days are upon us. War, poverty, terrorism, economic devastation. These are the hallmarks of Min Aung Hlaing and the Junta. And now, in its ever-escalating embrace of atrocities, we grieve the execution of political prisoners.

Each of your calls for – expressions of concern and condemnation is from your side just regrettable failure of sincere intention to facilitate moderation and de-escalation of violence. For us it is extremely painful loss of lives. For us it is burning the houses and whole villages – destruction of most basic conditions for life of tens of thousands and hundreds of thousand ordinary people who anyhow have lived on the edge of poverty and in constant struggle to sustain their families.

While you are again and again calling for restrain and negotiations, Min Aung Hlaing is hardening his stand. While you call for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to be released, MAH has moved her from house arrest to prison.

While you put significant and quiet diplomacy to persuade MAH not to carry on executions, he has killed four political prisoners and junta's spoke person in boosting that "according to law" they will execute more.

Min Aung Hlaing must be stopped once and for all. The senseless and illegal execution of Ko Jimmy, Ko Phyo Zeya Thaw, Ko Hla Myo Aung and Ko Aung Thura Zaw is reprehensible.

Once again proved Min Aung Hlaing and the junta's showed absolute disregard to international norms, human rights, and amicable resolution to the current crisis. But more gravely a complete contempt and disregard for Myanmar people.

Min Aung Hlaing has repeatedly exploited and betrayed ASEAN's efforts to help find sustainable political solution. This execution further demonstrates the Junta's disregard to the commitments it has made to the current ASEAN chair and ASEAN envoy. Indiscriminate bombings, murder, arbitrary arrests and detentions and destruction of properties are intolerable now for our people in every corner of our society.

How many more lives does the international community needs before it can act decisively against the junta? Weapons for Ukraine, air lifts from Afghans, and deafening silence for Myanmar people. Who are we to you now? Are we expected to suffer their atrocity more than others? Endless debates on legitimacy and credentials, statements of condemnation, leveraging humanitarian access here and there. Yet nothing for our people, for our effort to restore that is rightly ours – the right to live in safety.

Four of our brothers martyred for their commitment to a free and democratic Myanmar.

41 political prisoners announced for execution. Who will be next?

A bounty on the head of those democratically election in 2020 elections who date to serve our people in health, education, humanitarian response, protection of women and girls.

All the while I have respected every request to me to keep meeting secret, to be patient, to be grateful for your attention. All the while I want to scream 'help! help our people need your help'.

The Preamble of the United Nations Charter states that "the People of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom." It is time to put this into action.

To the United Nations member states, security council and international community,

We appreciate the statements of condemnation of the execution our friends but without practical action it is hollow words. Effective, decisive, and united collective action is needed immediately

- 1. Cut the revenue streams of Min Aung Hlaing and his terrorist army as efficiently as possible.
- 2. Suspend all international representations of the junta and prevent any representative of the Junta in any international platforms
- 3. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) must act swiftly utilizing Responsibility to Protect by sending troops and weapons supplies to our united ethnic and democratic forces.
- 4. Immediately recognize the National Unity Government as the government of Myanmar and afford us the same right and dignity of all other democratically elected governments in the world today.

We have vision for the peaceful future of our country. We have legitimacy. We have sense of responsibility. We have support of the people of country. We care for lives, for rights, for rule of law, for peace, for understanding, for accountability. We care!

Start by talking with us instead of either creepingly engaging and legitimizing junta or issuing ineffective statements of regret. None of those is bringing you closer to help us and both of that is bringing us every day closer to death and destruction.

As our people die in IDP camps and in people defenses forces trying to protect themselves, we compel international partners to exhaust all possible political and diplomatic means to help realize our yearning for safety, stability, peace, and freedom from the Junta's dictatorial rule.

As I close, I assure you with full voice that the people of Myanmar shall prevail. Peace and justice shall prevail. And we will restore Myanmar to its place among the vanguard of democracies. Our unshakable faith in our revolution carries at its core a commitment to our international obligations and our commitment to development, peace, and stability to our neighboring countries, to our region and to the world. I thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*