

To: Member States of the United Nations General Assembly  
United Nations Secretary-General

4 September 2025

**Open letter: UN General Assembly must denounce Myanmar military junta's sham election, support Myanmar people's democratic aspirations**

Your Excellencies,

We—206 Myanmar, regional, and international civil society organizations—call on the Member States of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to adopt a resolution that categorically rejects the Myanmar military junta's sham election and explicitly supports the Myanmar people's ongoing efforts to establish bottom-up federal democracy. In this vein, we urge the UNGA to ensure that Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun retains his credentials as the Permanent Representative of Myanmar. We also urge the UNGA to end the mandate of the Special Envoy on Myanmar, and the Secretary-General to immediately assume a leadership role in addressing the crisis.

**First, we call on the UNGA to adopt a resolution on Myanmar at its upcoming 80th Session that unequivocally denounces the junta's sham election, as well as its violence and other coercive tactics to compel participation in this farcical exercise.** Despite changing its name from "State Administration Council" to "State Security and Peace Commission," the junta has neither the legal right nor the political legitimacy necessary to conduct any electoral process in Myanmar. The junta also severely lacks the effective territorial and administrative control over Myanmar necessary to conduct an "election."

The military junta's plan to hold a so-called election on 28 December 2025 is illegal. It is also a deliberate ongoing attempt to manufacture legitimacy while intensifying its campaign of violence, repression, and atrocity crimes against civilians. During the past two months, the junta has escalated lethal airstrikes, artillery shelling, and scorched-earth operations in areas where it lacks territorial and administrative control to the democratic resistance movement, targeting [schools](#), [monasteries](#), [hospitals](#), [homes](#), and [internally displaced person camps](#). This is a concerted and murderous effort to terrorize entire communities and claim territory to prop up its sham election. On 17 August 2025, the junta [bombed](#) the town of Mawchi in Pasaung Township, Karenni State, [killing](#) at least 32 people including several children. Since late June, the junta [has unleashed](#) near-daily airstrikes on Pasaung Township, killing at least 52 civilians in two months.

The junta's heinous attacks on civilians also foreshadow further violence and manufactured instability to coerce participation in its sham election—consistent with the Myanmar military's track record of exploiting human suffering and repressing political opposition to consolidate power. During Cyclone Nargis in 2008, the then military regime obstructed relief efforts while forcing through its sham constitutional referendum. Today, the same tactics are evident. Following the massive Sagaing earthquake on 28 March 2025, the junta blocked humanitarian aid from reaching quake-devastated communities, while [launching](#) at least 982 airstrikes and artillery attacks, as of 16 June, in quake-affected areas and beyond. At the same time, the junta is systematically deregistering and barring numerous political parties through repressive measures such as its so-called "Political Party Registration Law."

**Second, the UNGA should also urge the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, including elected representatives, journalists, members of the Civil Disobedience Movement, and other human rights defenders.** The junta's continued [detention](#) of more than 22,000 political prisoners underscores its complete disregard for human rights and the rule of law, compounded by its systematic infliction of torture, ill-treatment, and sexual and gender-based

violence against political prisoners. The UNGA must take all measures possible for their immediate and unconditional release.

**In tandem, we call on the UNGA to recognize and support the Myanmar people's democratic aspirations and their ongoing efforts in building bottom-up governance to establish a federal democracy—the necessary foundation for attaining sustainable peace in Myanmar.** Through the National Unity Government, the National Unity Consultative Council, and federal units including ethnic councils established by Myanmar's longstanding ethnic resistance organizations, communities are advancing bottom-up governance structures within the frameworks of federal democracy and human rights principles. These bodies are delivering essential public services such as health care, education, public security, and humanitarian aid, while also developing and implementing policies on gender equality, transitional justice, and more. Such efforts on the ground demonstrate the aspirations, resilience, and resolve of the Myanmar people to build a just, peaceful, and inclusive society. It is time for the world to recognize their efforts and stand with them.

**Moreover, we urge all UN Member States to ensure that Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun retains his credentials as the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the UN.** Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun was appointed by the elected representatives of the Myanmar people and continues to act in accordance with their democratic will. Any so-called election by the junta cannot override this legitimacy, which reflects the outcome of Myanmar's last free and fair election. As such, any attempt by the military junta to claim Myanmar's seat must be fully rejected. The junta lacks democratic legitimacy and effective control over the country, and remains a systematic perpetrator of international crimes. The UNGA's unequivocal support for Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun's credentials is essential to uphold the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, as well as to support the people of Myanmar in their ongoing struggle to end military tyranny and establish a genuine federal democracy.

**Finally, we once again urge the UNGA to terminate the mandate of the Special Envoy on Myanmar and the Secretary-General to immediately assume a more direct and active leadership role in addressing Myanmar's polycrisis.** Time and again, the Special Envoy mandate has proven unable to yield any meaningful or positive progress in ending the junta's atrocity crimes or in alleviating the suffering of the Myanmar people. In tandem, current Special Envoy Julie Bishop's business activities [raise](#) serious concerns about her capacity to maintain the requisite impartiality and independence for the successful execution of the mandate. The Secretary-General must urgently take the lead to coordinate international action to concertedly end the junta's violence, ensure accountability for its crimes, and support the Myanmar people's revolution for inclusive federal democracy.

The people of Myanmar have made their democratic aspirations and commitment clear. Now, the international community must urgently take concrete action to reject the military junta's efforts to silence their voices and destroy their future. We urge Member States to act decisively at the 80th session of the UNGA: reject the junta's sham election, call for immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, support the people's bottom-up federal democracy building efforts, retain Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun's credentials, and end the Special Envoy's mandate for stronger UN leadership in response to Myanmar's crisis.

***For more information, please contact:***

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**Signed by 206 civil society organizations:**

1. 5/ of Zaya State Strike Committee

2. 88 Generation (Peace and Open Society)
3. 88 မျိုးဆက်၊ ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးနှင့် ပွင့်လင်းလူ့အဖွဲ့အစည်း (ကျောက်မဲမြို့)
4. 8888 Generation (New Zealand)
5. A New Burma (ANB)
6. A-Yar-Taw People Strike Steering Committee
7. Action Committee for Democracy Development (ACDD)
8. Ah Nah podcast – Conversations with Myanmar
9. All Burma Democratic Front in New Zealand
10. Amazeate Organization - (Magway Region)
11. Anti-coup Forces Coordination Committee (ACFCC -Mandalay)
12. Anti-Junta Alliance Yangon - AJAY
13. Anyar Pyit Taing Htaung Lay Myar
14. Arakan Rohingya National Union (ARNU)
15. Arakan Youth Peace Network (AYPN)
16. Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR)
17. Asia Pacific Solidarity Coalition (APSOC)
18. Asian Health Institute (AHI)
19. Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP)
20. Association of Human Rights Defenders and Promoters (HRDP)
21. Association of Spring Rainbow (ASR)
22. Association Suisse-Birmanie
23. Athan - Freedom of Expression Activist Organization
24. Auckland Kachin Community NZ
25. Auckland Zomi Community
26. Aung San Suu Kyi Park Norway
27. Ayeyarwaddy West Development Organisation (AWDO), Magway
28. Ayeyarwaddy West Development Organisation (AWDO), Nagphe
29. Blood Money Campaign (BMC)
30. Budalin Strike Force
31. Burma Action Ireland
32. Burma Campaign UK (BCUK)
33. Burmese Canadian Network (BCN)
34. Burmese Community Group (Manawatu, NZ)
35. Burmese Rohingya Organisation UK (BROUK)
36. Burmese Rohingya Welfare Organisation New Zealand
37. Burmese Women's Union (BWU)
38. Campaign for a New Myanmar
39. Chaung Oo Township Youth Strike Committee
40. Chin Community in Norway
41. Chin Community of Auckland
42. Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO)
43. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
44. Civil Information Network (CIN)
45. CRPH & NUG supporters Ireland
46. CRPH Funding Ireland
47. CRPH Support Group, Norway and members organizations

48. CRPH, NUG Support Team Germany - Deutschland
49. Dagon University Student's Union (DUSU)
50. Defend Myanmar Democracy (DMD)
51. Democracy for Ethnic Minorities Organization (DEMO)
52. Democratic Party for a New Society, Norway
53. Doh Atu - Ensemble pour le Myanmar
54. Durban International Book Fair
55. Educational Initiatives Prague
56. Equality Myanmar (EQMM)
57. Ethnic Youth General Strike Committee (Mandalay)
58. Farmer Independence Force - FIF
59. Federal Myanmar Benevolence Group (NZ)
60. Former ABSDF
61. Free Burma Campaign (South Africa) (FBC(SA))
62. Free Rohingya Coalition (FRC)
63. From Singapore to Myanmar (FS2M)
64. Future Light Center (FLC)
65. General Strike Collaboration Committee (GSCC)
66. General Strike Committee of Basic and Higher Education (GSCBHE)
67. Generation Wave (GW)
68. Generations' Solidarity Coalition of Nationalities (GSCN)
69. Hpakant Hmawlae Strike Force
70. Human Rights Foundation of Monland (HURFOM)
71. Human Rights Promoter
72. India for Myanmar
73. Info Birmanie
74. Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID)
75. International Association, Myanmar-Switzerland (IAMS)
76. International Campaign for the Rohingya
77. Justice For Myanmar (JFM)
78. K'cho Ethnic Association (Europe)
79. Kachin Association Norway
80. Kalay Township People's Strike Steering Committee - KPSSC
81. Kanbalu Strike Force
82. Kani Strike Force
83. Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG)
84. Karen Swedish Community (KSC)
85. Karen Women's Organization (KWO)
86. Karenni Human Rights Group (KnHRG)
87. Karenni National Women's Organization (KNWO)
88. Karenni Society New Zealand
89. Kayan Women's Organization (KyWO)
90. Keng Tung Youth
91. Kyae Lak Myay
92. Kyauktada Strike Committee (KSC)
93. La Communauté Birmane de France

94. Latpadaung Anti-coup Strike Force
95. Latpadaung Region Strike Committee
96. Legal Aid for Human Rights (Shan)
97. Let's Help Each Other (LHEO)
98. LGBT Alliance Myanmar
99. Lisu Youth Congress - LYC
100. Magway People's Revolution Committee
101. Magway Region Human Rights Network
102. Mandalay Medical Family (MFM)
103. Mandalay Strike Force (MSF)
104. MATA Sagaing Region
105. MayMyo Strike Force
106. Metta Campaign Mandalay
107. Minority Affairs Institute (MAI)
108. Monywa People's Strike Steering Committee
109. Monywa-Amyint Road Strike Leading Committee
110. Muslim Youth Network
111. Myanmar Accountability Project (MAP)
112. Myanmar Action Group Denmark
113. Myanmar anti-military coup movement in New Zealand
114. Myanmar Campaign Network (Australia)
115. Myanmar Catholic Community In Norway
116. Myanmar Community (The Netherlands)
117. Myanmar Community Group Christchurch New Zealand
118. Myanmar Community Group Dunedin New Zealand
119. Myanmar Community in Norway
120. Myanmar Emergency Fund - Canada (MEF - Canada)
121. Myanmar Engineers - New Zealand
122. Myanmar Gonye (New Zealand)
123. Myanmar Hindu Union
124. Myanmar Labour Alliance (MLA)
125. Myanmar People Alliance (Shan State)
126. Myanmar Students' Union in New Zealand
127. Myanmar Tourism Committee
128. Myaung People Strike Steering Committee
129. Myaung Youth Network
130. MyaYar Knowledge Tree
131. Myingyan Civilian Movement Committee
132. Nelson Myanmar Community Group New Zealand
133. Network for Human Rights Documentation - Burma (ND-Burma)
134. New Myanmar Foundation (NMF)
135. New Rehmonnya Federated Force – NRFF
136. New Step Women Empowerment Group (NSWG)
137. New Zealand Campaign for Myanmar
138. New Zealand Doctors for NUG
139. New Zealand Karen Association

140. New Zealand Zo Community Inc.
141. NLD Organization Committee (International) Norway
142. No Business With Genocide
143. Norway Matu Community
144. Norway Rvwang Community
145. Nyan Lynn Thit Analytica (NLTA)
146. OCTOPUS (Youth Organization)
147. Overseas Mon Association, New Zealand
148. Pale Township People's Strike Steering Committee
149. Peace and Social Justice Group
150. Progressive Muslim Youth Association - PMYA
151. Progressive Voice (PV)
152. Purple Window Counselling VoH
153. Pwintphyu Development Organisation
154. Pyithu Gonye (New Zealand)
155. Rohingya Community in Norway
156. Rohingya Maiyafuino Collaborative Network (RMCN)
157. Rural Head Women Group
158. Rvwang Community Association New Zealand
159. Save Myanmar Fundraising Group (New Zealand)
160. Save Myanmar San Francisco
161. Save Myanmar (USA)
162. Shan Community (New Zealand)
163. Shan MATA
164. Shwe Bo Strike Force
165. Singapore to Myanmar (FS2M)
166. Sisters 2 Sisters
167. Sitt Nyein Pann Foundation
168. Southern Initiatives (SI)
169. Spring Revolution Myanmar Muslim Community - SRMMC
170. Sujata Sisters Group (NZ)
171. Ta'ang Students and Youth Union (TSYU)
172. Ta'ang Women's Organization (TWO)
173. Tha Byay Nyo Shwe Bo (TPN-SBO)
174. U.S. Campaign for Burma (USCB)
175. Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)
176. University of Medicine Mandalay Student Union Revolutionary Front - UMMSURF
177. University Students' Unions Alumni Force
178. Volunteers in Myanmar
179. Wetlet Revolution Leading Committee
180. White Coat Society Yangon (WCSY)
181. Women Alliance Burma (WAB)
182. Women Lead Resource Center
183. Women's League of Burma (WLB)
184. Yadanabon University Students' Union (YDNBUSU)
185. Yain Nweh Par (Rainbow Win The Storm - RIS)

- 186. Yangon Deaf Group
- 187. Yaw Women’s Advancement Network – (Magway Region)
- 188. Yinmarpin and Salingyi All Villages Strike Committee
- 189. Youth for Democratization of Myanmar (UDM)
- 190. Zomi Christian Fellowship of Norway
- 191. Zomi Community Norway
- 192. ဂန့်ဂေါဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့
- 193. ညီမျှခြင်းမြန်မာအဖွဲ့ - ဧရာဝတီတိုင်း
- 194. နွေဦးရောင်ခြည်ပညာရေးစင်တာ (မြောက်)
- 195. ပန်းသစ္စာအမျိုးသမီးအဖွဲ့ (မြောက်)
- 196. ပြည်သူ့သပိတ်အင်အားစု
- 197. ပြည်သူ့အခြေပြု ပညာရေးအဖွဲ့ - မကွေးတိုင်းရေစက်ချို
- 198. ဖြူစင်မေတ္တာအမျိုးသမီးအဖွဲ့ (မြောက်)
- 199. မင်းဘူးတောင်သူများအစုအဖွဲ့
- 200. မင်းလှတောင်သူများအစုအဖွဲ့
- 201. ရွှေဘိုမြို့နယ်သပိတ်အင်အားစု
- 202. ရှိ/Shield Women Organization
- 203. လီဆူအမျိုးသမီးများအဖွဲ့
- 204. အညာလွင်ပြင်ရပ်ဝန်း
- 205. ဒို့မြေကွန်ရက်
- 206. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းဒေသ သပိတ် အင်အားစု