The Union Minister of International Cooperation and Spokesperson of National Unity Government of Myanmar H.E. Dr. Sasa's address the People and Government of the United States of America- USA

11 May 2021

H.E. Dr. Sasa, Union Minister of International Cooperation and Spokesperson of the National Unity Government of Myanmar had the privilege of meeting with the United States Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, H.E. Sung Yong Kim, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, H.E. Atul Keshap, and other senior US Government officials, and had the privilege of making the following address to the people and Government of the United States of America on behalf of the people of Myanmar and the people's elected National Unity Government of Myanmar.

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The brave people of Myanmar and the people's National Unity Government of Myanmar greatly appreciate the People and Government of the United States of America for its strong leadership and action against the illegal military junta since the very first day of the military coup on February 1st, 2021.

I am proud to serve as Minister of International Cooperation and spokesperson for the National Unity Government. It is my job to provide you with the information and assistance that you need to support the people of Myanmar. I am here at your service.

Thank you again for your continued support of the people of Myanmar. While the fate of our country is in the hands of our people, strong and sustained support from the international community, specially from the United States of America is crucial. We are deeply grateful to all who are standing with us through this horrific ordeal. Now, more than ever, the people of Myanmar need your cooperation, friendship and support.

It has been exactly 100 days since the terrorist regime headed by Min Aung Hlaing and his henchmen stole the results of our democratic election and authority from the elected government officials of the people of Myanmar. Like many people in Myanmar, I fear for my life, but I have survived unscathed till this day. Sadly, however, many of our brave citizens have not been as fortunate as me. Since that horrible day, the coup instigators and 'SAC' forces have murdered nearly 800 civilian heroes of Myanmar, and illegally detained and imprisoned nearly 5000 of my brave fellow citizens.

The duty of a nation's military is to defend and protect its people. However, under the command of Min Aung Hlaing, the supposed guardians of our nation are doing precisely the opposite of their duty and continue arbitrarily murdering and detaining without cause the brave

and innocent civilians of Myanmar on a daily and hourly basis. The people of Myanmar unanimously consider Min Aung Hlaing and those who report to him as terrorists. Without cause, without explanation, and without even a hearing these terrorists are detaining, beating, raping, torturing, shooting, and murdering innocent civilians and civil servants participating in the Civil Disobedience Movement both openly on the streets and secretly in confinement. This should come as no surprise, however, as the terrorist tatmadaw organization has been weaponizing rape and murder in atrocities, crimes against humanity, war crimes, ethnic cleansing against ethnic nationalities such as the Kachin, Karen, Shan, Kayah, Mon, Rakhine, Chin, Rohingya and many, many more. The junta does not want the international community and the people of Myanmar to know about these crimes and atrocities they are committing against the people of Myanmar, which is why they are trying their utmost to restrict the flow of information in and out of Myanmar. They have used a 'four cut' policy, namely, to cut off communication, cut off support and supplies, cut off basic necessities, and cut off humanitarian assistance to the country. They continue to harass and imprison journalists with over 40 journalists still remaining in detention, including an international journalist from Japan. Five journalists from DVB have also been arrested in Chiang Mai, Thailand. These forms of intimidation against journalists must not be allowed to cross the border outside of Myanmar. The junta has abolished and declared free media organizations illegal which have been reporting facts from inside the country.

The violence caused by the junta, is both systematic and widespread. Every day their forces are engaging in crimes against humanity. These crimes must be stopped. We, the brave people of Myanmar, are doing all that we can to resist the juntas efforts to take away our freedom with their blood-stained battlefield weapons. The peaceful Civil Disobedience Movements (CDM) led by brave doctors, nurses, health workers, school teachers, educators, students, activists, and concerned citizens have been joined by hundreds of thousands of civil servants and private sector workers. Make no mistake - this is the most powerful peaceful movement ever to rise against a junta sponsored reign of terror, and this peaceful movement is much more powerful than even the most cruel acts of terrorism the junta can connive. In the last 3 months, the CDM has been joined by millions of brave citizens marching across the country for their freedoms. Day after day the brave people of Myanmar continue to demonstrate enormous courage and bravery in the face of the most oppressive and repressive military dictators in the world. These brave CDM participants are not only now the heroes of peace, but this movement has even been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. This peaceful movement deserves not only the Nobel Peace prize, but also the full support of the international community, and we especially request the support of the United States of America to continue the support of this peaceful CDM movement. These national heroes of peace must stay safe, healthy, and properly sheltered. We have identified some key points with which the international community can assist our brave people in their struggle for democracy.

1.Food Security

The WFP analysis has estimated that more than 3 million people in Myanmar, largely including the brave CDM participants, will face hunger in the coming months. We urgently appeal to the international community, and especially to the United States of America to help us provide food to these CDM participants across the country. Food supplies may be brought across the border from partners and donors in neighboring countries and distributed equally according to greatest necessity, and funds may be given to local coordinators to purchase food in hard to access areas. Our heroes and the heroes of peace must not suffer hunger or thirst!

2. Health

We appeal to the United States of America and the international community to help us procure medical supplies and medicines, including Covid-19 vaccination options. In addition, funds must be provided for CDM participants including doctors, nurses, midwives, and emergency medical personnel to continue providing basic healthcare services to the brave people of Myanmar. Each state, region, township and city has its own coordination team comprised of medical and emergency personnel who can immediately make use of any provided resources. Our national heroes, and the heroes of peace must stay healthy!

3. Education

We appeal to the United States of America, and the international community to help us procure educational supplies and materials to continue providing in-person and online digital education to the brave students of Myanmar. This peaceful movement against the terrorist regime is largely composed of the brave students of Myanmar, and these students deserve scholarships and support from the international community. Each state region and township and city has its own coordination team comprised of teachers, tutors, and student leaders, and they will be linked together to provide a vast and efficient network across the nation. Our heroes must continue educating our brave students!

4. Shelter

We appeal to the United States of America and the international community to help us provide shelter and accommodation to CDM participants across the nation who have been forced out of their homes, and have been subjected to torture and death. If we provide a safe place for these brave CDM participants, many men and women currently serving under the terrorist tatmadaw will defect and join the correct side of history. Each state, region, township and city has its own coordination team, and will be linked together so that the CDM participants and refugees can have safe places to stay until the end of this cruel reign of terror. We request the United States of America to communicate to its partners and allies around the world, and especially to our neighbors, to open their borders for humanitarian assistance and the unobstructed passage of relief supplies. Our national heroes and heroes of peace must have shelter! We must leave no one behind.

In the face of these murderous generals, we have formed the National Unity Government of Myanmar. This is the first time in our history that we have had such a government, for It is the people's government. Our priority and mission can be found at the very center of our name - UNITY. Unity in diversity is our nation's greatest strength, and the national unity government is truly a reflection of this unity. Civil societies across the nation, elected officials, members of parliament, and the freedom fighters from every ethnicity and party, have come together as one united people and formed the National Unity Government to take back our stolen freedoms. Our President H.E. Duwa Lashi La is a revered Kachin leader; our Prime Minister Mahn Winn Khaing Thann is also a revered Karen leader. Our Union Minister of the ministry of Women, Youths, and Children's Affairs H.E. Naw Susanna Hla Hla Soe is a Karen woman's leader. The Minister of the Ministry of Human Rights H.E. Aung Myo Min is an outstanding leader and advocate for Myanmar's LGBT community.

As we fill out the National Unity Government of Myanmar and prioritize, we will be addressing a range of important issues faced by our nation, including protecting, promoting and respecting the rights, dignity and quality of life of our many ethnic communities. This includes the brave

Rohingya people as well. We will be discussing and announcing the positions of our National Unity Government in the coming days and weeks, and I can tell you today that I am proud to call the Rohingya my brothers and sisters and fellow citizens. We look forward to working hand in hand with all ethnicities to build a new future, and a new Myanmar where the rights of all will be protected and respected, regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, gender, and religion.

The future of Myanmar is in the hands of the people of Myanmar. We need the support of the United States of America and of the international communities to succeed. On behalf of the National Unity Government of Myanmar in my official position as Spokesperson, I have two more important requests to make:

The first is the support of humanitarian assistance as I mentioned previously, and engagement with the National Unity Government. As I have mentioned before, the National Unity Government of Myanmar is comprised of the elected leaders from all ethnicities and races, the ethnic armed organization leaders, and civil society leaders who were elected by the people of Myanmar, for the people of Myanmar, through free, fair, and democratic elections on November 8, 2020. Our hope and prayer is that the United States of America and the international community will recognize, respect, and uphold the will of the brave people of Myanmar by recognizing the NUG as the sole legitimate government of Myanmar. At the same time we request the United States of America and the international community to do everything in their power to end this illegitimate, brutal, cruel and illegal military coup, and help the NUG to restore democracy and freedom to Myanmar. Please also continue to utilize us as a source of correct information, analysis, and recommendations exactly as you are doing now.

Secondly, we appeal to the United States of America to help us put more financial pressure on the junta revenue streams, of which the largest source of income to the junta comes especially from the oil and gas sector, and remains largely unscathed by the international community. It is vitally important to divert the revenue that is flowing to the junta. We greatly appreciate the United States of America for the strong leadership of placing sanctions against two military owned companies, MEC and MEHL. We also deeply appreciate the United States of America for sanctioning military individuals who are responsible for these crimes against humanity, and we further request the strong leadership of the United States of America in targeting and coordinating both economic and diplomatic sanctions against the military regime, including sanctions against Myanmar oil and gas, and all State owned enterprises, imposing an international arms embargo on the military junta, and establishing a no-fly zone above Myanmar. Please also help deliver justice for the brave Myanmar people by bringing these perpetrators to justice through the international mechanisms such as the ICC. The sanctions must come from the leaders of the United States of America and the international community. Stronger and tougher sanctions are needed every day until the military junta ends its reign of terror against the people of Myanmar.

We hope, believe, and pray that the United States of America, its allies, partners, and the people of Myanmar represented by the National Unity Government of Myanmar can work together to end this reign of terror, and bring about a true federal democracy for Myanmar, and peace, stability, and further prosperity to the region. We, the people of Myanmar will remain forever loyal allies and partners with all those who support us in this the darkest moment of our history, and our final struggle for liberty and freedom.

We thank you sincerely!