



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs

National Unity Government

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Date: 05 August 2021

Subject: Outcome of the 54th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (54th AMM)

Your Excellency,

The National Unity Government (NUG) is closely following the discussion at the 54th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting, particularly on Myanmar. We noted the 54th AMM Joint Communique and believed that Brunei Darussalam's Chairmanship will be able to bring ASEAN to a more peaceful, stable, and resilient Community with enhanced capacity to respond effectively to challenges. We also welcomed your appointment as the ASEAN Special Envoy for Myanmar. We believe your able leadership would bring differences in this situation that the people of Myanmar are facing.

On behalf of the NUG, I wish to reiterate that our government continues to be committed to engaging and working closely with ASEAN to ensure the success of ASEAN's objectives to create a humanitarian space and start an inclusive process towards resolving Myanmar's current political crisis. The NUG fully appreciates that these are long-term commitments that ASEAN Member States have made towards a fellow member state.

Your Excellency,

In this regard, I would like to highlight a couple of points for your kind information and consideration. First, while the NUG deeply appreciates the support and commitment of ASEAN Member States to assist Myanmar and her people, we nevertheless remain greatly concerned that the military junta gets to continuously representing Myanmar in many of ASEAN platforms. I wish to highlight that the military junta has clearly put its own people and other people in this region at risks by disrespecting Article 1 and Article 2 of the ASEAN Charter. It has evidently belittled the 'Purpose' and 'Principles' of our association. ASEAN Charter is the main legally binding instrument that holds us and our people together, clear

violation of these purposes and principles clearly undermining all ASEAN Member States goodwill in building a better region.

Secondly, while we appreciate greatly ASEAN's efforts in creating an inclusive platform for dialogue, the NUG would like to stress that there are pre-conditions for a possible constructive dialogue with the military junta.

Thirdly, like many other ASEAN Member States understand and as widely reported in many international media; the civil resistance movements persist despite continues atrocities by the military junta which led to deteriorating humanitarian situation, economic collapse, and more recently the rapid spread of the COVID-19 across the country. Our people are dying every day. We plead your cooperation to support us in addressing humanitarian and COVID-19 crisis. *This has to be made into ASEAN's priority.* The NUG has adopted a people-centred response to prevent, mitigate, and control the spread of the COVID-19 within Myanmar and at the border areas. We have set-up the Covid-19 Task Force (CTF) on 21st of July in collaboration with Ethnic Health Organizations. We are looking forward to collaborating with ASEAN, collectively through the AHA Centre, and in any possible bilateral cooperation.

Your Excellency,

I understand the weight ASEAN is carrying, the complexity of the region. On behalf of the people of Myanmar and as part of ASEAN family, I would like to extend our full cooperation with ASEAN, especially in addressing the humanitarian and COVID-19 crisis we are facing.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Zin Mar Aung

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs
National Unity Government
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

THE HONOURABLE DATO ERYWAN PEHIN YUSOF

Minister of Foreign Affairs II

Brunei Darussalam

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

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ALL ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS

H.E DATO LIM JOCK HOI

Secretary-General of ASEAN