



Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Unity Government
President Office
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Reference: PO-10 (NOR)/2022

Date: February 10, 2022

His Excellency Jonas Gahr Støre
Prime Minister
The Royal Norwegian Government

Dear Prime Minister:

The People of Myanmar are always grateful for the support from Norway for democracy, human rights and peace in Myanmar for over three decades. Norway was among the first countries to strongly condemn the 1 February 2021 military coup attempt. Norway also announced freezing of its bilateral aid to Myanmar soon after the coup. We also admire that “good governance, respect for human rights, alleviate suffering and protect human dignity in humanitarian crises” are at the forefront of Norwegian Development Policy.

Myanmar has been in turmoil since Senior General Min Aung Hlaing’s February 1st military coup attempt against Myanmar’s elected legitimate government. The political crisis and the junta’s brutal terror campaign, including indiscriminate airstrikes against civilians, have led to a year of turmoil and constant fear for the people of Myanmar. The illegitimate coup attempt created not only widespread human rights abuses but also over 400,000 civilians became the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Following the 1 February 2021 illegitimate and unconstitutional attempted coup d’état, members of the Union Parliament elected in the 2020 general elections swore their oaths of office. On 5 February, an emergency session of parliament with 63% attendance formed the Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH). On 16 April 2021, the CRPH announced the formation of the National Unity Government (NUG). This announcement maintained the continuity of U Win Myint as President and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as State Counselor.

We hold the values of life, freedom, individual rights, and the rule of law at the core of our fight for democracy. Like your countrymen during times of hardship and trial – when these values were threatened - who rose to the challenge to protect freedom - we are fighting for ours.

The NUG values Norway’s ethical business investments in Myanmar, specifically, with Telenor. It has operated in Myanmar since 2014 with 18.3 million loyal customers. Telenor has announced in July 2021 selling its Myanmar unit to Lebanese investment firm M1 Group, prompting an outcry from the public who have been relying on its services for

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The M1 Group, a Lebanon-based holding company's business record is marred by corruption and a long history of cozying up to dictators, with a disregard for the right to privacy and freedom of expression, in stark contrast to Norwegian values and Telenor's claim to protect human rights.

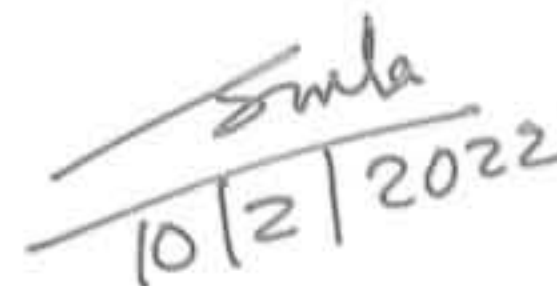
According to recent media reports, Telenor is planning to sell Telenor Myanmar to Investcom, a military linked business "Shwe Bayin Phyu" is the majority shareholder of Investcom, and remaining shares are owned by M1 Team. Managing Director of Shwe Bayin Phyu Group is a major shareholder in the EU-sanctioned Forest Joint Venture Corporation.

The people of Myanmar and 18.3 million customers of Telenor Myanmar trusted Telenor as an ethically responsible business entity that values its customers' data security and their safety.

In our cabinet meeting, the National Unity Government of Myanmar decided that the sale of Telenor Group is not acceptable and should not be approved. Telecom data contains sensitive data and a sale would constitute a risk to the security and lives of 18.3 million Telenor's faithful customers in Myanmar.

We, the National Unity Government of Myanmar, therefore, kindly ask the Royal Norwegian government to use your majority position in Telenor and place a request to ignore any decisions made by the illegitimate military regime, and reverse or defer the decision of selling its Myanmar unit in order to stop pushing over 18 million customers into the hands of the military regime.

We would like to request the Norwegian Government to help respect the decision of the legitimate government of Myanmar, the NUG and the will of the Myanmar people.



Duwa Lashi La
Acting President
National Unity Government
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Copy:
The Norwegian Parliament (to all members of Parliament)