Republic of the Union of Myanmar

National Unity Government

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Statement on the Appointment of EU Special Envoy for Myanmar and the Fourth Round of EU Sanction

23 February 2022

The National Unity Government (NUG) would like to express our profound appreciation of the European Union (EU) and its member states' continued support of various efforts to restore democracy and civilian government. We recognize and deeply value EU's contribution to Myanmar's democratic transition and the peace process in the past few years.

We welcome the appointment of Ambassador Igor Driesmans as the European Union's Special Envoy for Myanmar. We are looking forward to engaging and collaborating with His Excellency to realize our goals for Federal Democracy and eliminate all kinds of dictatorship in Myanmar.

The NUG lauds the adoption of the fourth round of sanctions against 22 individuals affiliated with the military regime and four companies, including Htoo Group, IGE (International Group of Entrepreneurs), Mining Enterprise 1 (ME 1), and Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE). These companies generate a significant amount of revenue, especially the MOGE, which enables the junta to continue to commit crimes against humanity against the people of Myanmar. The sanction is a powerful instrument in cutting the junta's sources of revenue, which is a critical pressure point against Min Aung Hlaing and his self-styled the State Administration Council (SAC).

It has been a year since the military junta robbed us of our rights, undermined our path to democratic transition, dragged the country to instability, and inflicted humanitarian catastrophe. While the rest of the world is dealing with the lethal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the junta continues to indulge itself in unspeakable crimes against the people. Millions of people continue to flee to avoid the junta's brutality. Communities are continuously torched to ashes and indiscriminately bombed. Thousands continue to be arbitrarily arrested, tortured, and murdered. The people's fundamental rights are continuously being violated and freedom of expression repressed. The instability induced

by the junta has already led to an unprecedented economic crisis. Our neighbors have been bearing the coup's cross-border humanitarian and economic impact. The only way for all of these crimes and atrocities to stop is to restore democracy and eliminate the military dictatorship. Thus, **the NUG strongly urges other countries to follow the EU's sanction against the junta's revenue streams. We also urge the EU and the international community at large to put pressure against the countries that continue to engage in weapons trade with the military junta.**