Four pledges of allegiance of the People's Defence Force

(1) We will bear allegiances to the Federal Union of Myanmar and the people.

(2) We will bear allegiances to the fallen heroes who sacrificed their lives during the fight for democracy.

(3) We will protect and defend the lives, properties and livelihoods of the people.

(4) We solemnly pledge that we will sacrifice our lives in building the Federal Union of Myanmar.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

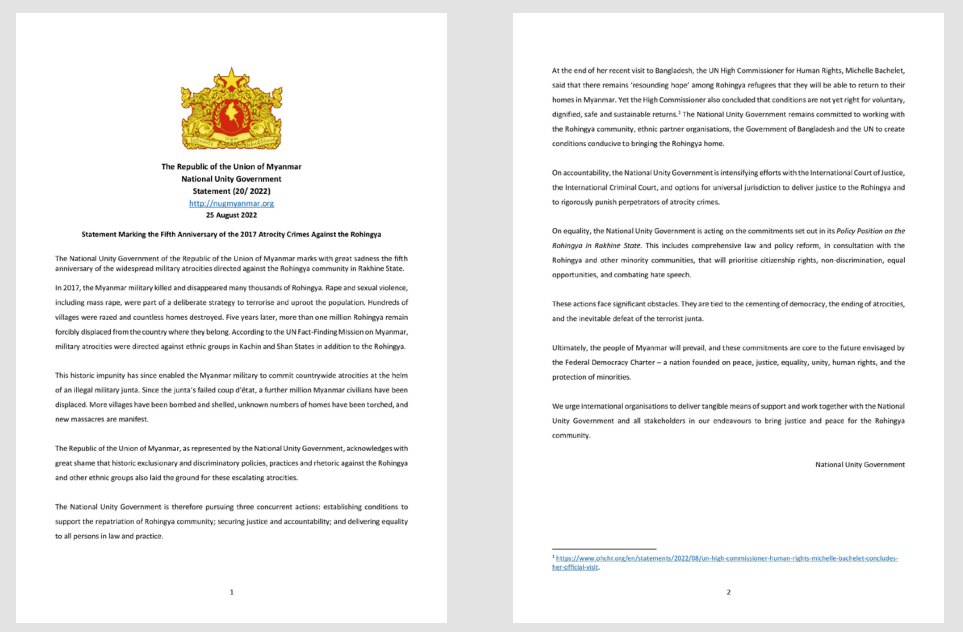
National Unity Government

Weekly Press Update (18/2022)

No . 18/2022 http://www.nugmyanmar.org 29th August, 2022

Ministry of Planning, Finance and Investment

1. NUG committed to returning the Rohingya and to working with ICC to prosecute atrocity crimes



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Unity Government
Statement (20/ 2022)
http://nugmyanmar.org
25 August 2022

Statement Marking the Fifth Anniversary of the 2017 Atrocity Crimes Against the Rohingya

The National Unity Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar marks with great sadness the fifth anniversary of the widespread military atrocities directed against the Rohingya community in Rakhine State.

In 2017, the Myanmar military killed and disappeared many thousands of Rohingya. Rape and sexual violence, including mass rape, were part of a deliberate strategy to terrorise and uproot the population. Hundreds of villages were razed and countless homes destroyed. Five years later, more than one million Rohingya remain forcibly displaced from the country where they belong. According to the UN Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, military atrocities were directed against ethnic groups in Kachin and Shan States in addition to the Rohingya.

This historic impunity has since enabled the Myanmar military to commit countrywide atrocities at the helm of an illegal military junta. Since the junta's failed coup d'état, a further million Myanmar civilians have been displaced. More villages have been bombed and shelled, unknown numbers of homes have been torched, and new massacres are manifest.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar, as represented by the National Unity Government, acknowledges with great shame that historic exclusionary and discriminatory policies, practices and rhetoric against the Rohingya and other ethnic groups also laid the ground for these escalating atrocities.

The National Unity Government is therefore pursuing three concurrent actions: establishing conditions to support the repatriation of Rohingya community; securing justice and accountability; and delivering equality to all persons in law and practice.

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At the end of her recent visit to Bangladesh, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, said that there remains 'resounding hope' among Rohingya refugees that they will be able to return to their homes in Myanmar. Yet the High Commissioner also concluded that conditions are not yet right for voluntary, dignified, safe and sustainable returns.[1] The National Unity Government remains committed to working with the Rohingya community, ethnic partner organisations, the Government of Bangladesh and the UN to create conditions conducive to bringing the Rohingya home.

On accountability, the National Unity Government is intensifying efforts with the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, and options for universal jurisdiction to deliver justice to the Rohingya and to rigorously punish perpetrators of atrocity crimes.

On equality, the National Unity Government is acting on the commitments set out in its *Policy Position on the Rohingya in Rakhine State*. This includes comprehensive law and policy reform, in consultation with the Rohingya and other minority communities, that will prioritise citizenship rights, non-discrimination, equal opportunities, and combating hate speech.

These actions face significant obstacles. They are tied to the cementing of democracy, the ending of atrocities, and the inevitable defeat of the terrorist junta.

Ultimately, the people of Myanmar will prevail, and these commitments are core to the future envisaged by the Federal Democracy Charter – a nation founded on peace, justice, equality, unity, human rights, and the protection of minorities.

We urge international organisations to deliver tangible means of support and work together with the National Unity Government and all stakeholders in our endeavours to bring justice and peace for the Rohingya community.

National Unity Government

[1] https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit.

2

The National Unity Government issued a statement marking the 5th anniversary of the 2017 genocide against the Rohingya. The statement asserts that the NUG remains committed to working with the Rohingya community, ethnic partner organisations, the Government of Bangladesh, and the UN to create conditions conducive to bringing the Rohingya home. With regards to accountability, the NUG is intensifying efforts with the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, and options for the application of universal jurisdiction to deliver justice to the Rohingya and to rigorously punish perpetrators of atrocities. The NUG urges international organisations to deliver tangible means of support and work together with the National Unity Government and all stakeholders.

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The statement also added that as concerns the issue of equality, the NUG is acting on its commitments as set out in its Policy Position on the Rohingya in Rakhine State. This includes comprehensive law and policy reform, in consultation with the Rohingya and other minority communities, that will prioritise citizenship rights, non-discrimination, equal opportunities, and combating hate speech. However, these actions face significant obstacles. They are dependent upon the cementing of democracy, the ending of atrocities, and the inevitable defeat of the terrorist junta. https://bit.ly/3CwOPZD

Ministry of Defence

2. NUG Defense Minister commends PDF's professionalism and counter-offensive operations 24/08/2022

U Yee Mon, minister of defence announced that the People's Defence Force (PDF) has started to evolve into a professional army where organized, well-trained troops conduct operations under a central command. The announcement comes after PDF and alliance forces defeated attacking Tatmadaw forces, tooks many captives including those at the officer level, and confiscated military weapons and supplies. The minister went on to state that accelerated efforts are being made to strengthen the command and consolidation of all forces including LDF in their respective areas, while systematic operations are being carried out to defeat Tatmadaw troops who cross into NUG or allied territory. https://bit.ly/3QWRjoj

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

3. NUG considers election of EC and CEC members of Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association (MGJEA) null and void 23/08/2022

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) announced that the Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association (MGJEA) which organises gems and jewellery exhibitions, and plays a crucial role in the gemstone trade is continuing to cooperate with the Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Enterprise of the SAC. MGJEA, under the indirect control of the SAC, has announced the election of the association's 6th executive committee (presiding for the 2022-2025 term). Owing to the MGJEA's ongoing cooperation with the SAC, MONREC has denounced the election as null and void, and the executive committee and central executive committee members illegitimate. Potential stakeholders and trading partners should be aware that the NUG will not honour the agreements of the EC and CEC members.

https://bit.ly/3CFz9Dl

Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration

4. NUG announces advanced trained Special Operation Force (SOF) 22/08/2022

The Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration announced that Special Operation Forces (S.O.F) had been formed on the 19th of July 2021. SOF is a special operations military unit of the Ministry originally formed from 44 special commandos and snipers who are well-trained. the first batch of advanced training produced 170 members, followed by further delivery of advanced trainings with 50 trainees in each batch. Troop members were dispatched to Yangon, Ayeyarwady, and Mon located in the Southern Military Region and conducted guerilla operations while the existing military columns in Tahnintharyi State and Karen Region were also reinforced for defensive operations in rural areas. https://bit.ly/3KodtNO

Ministry of Planning, Finance and Investment

5. Citizens can now pay taxes through NUGPay 23/08/2022

The Internal Revenues Department of the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Investment announced that taxpaying citizens can now pay their taxes by using the NUGPay mobile application. https://bit.ly/3pLb9Hr

6. NUG efforts to build new housing continues 24/08/2022

The End of Dictatorship (EOD), a fundraising program led by the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Investment launched the 'Spring Yangon Investment' housing project. The project aims to raise funds for the revolution in exchange for housing and property to be provided after victory. The project areas cover thousands of acres of land located in readily accessible areas within the Yangon metro region. There are projects participants can invest in: the Green Network Connection and Spring Memorial Park, Spring Yangon Investment, and business projects. https://bit.ly/3Q9pEQ9

7. NUG seeks to repeal 1982 Burma Citizenship Act that discriminates against the Rohingya.

Minister of Human Rights U Aung Myo Min stated in his speech delivered at the 5th anniversary of atrocity crimes against the Rohingya that necessary efforts and actions are being taken to immediately abolish the 1982 Burma Citizenship Act whose provisions discriminate against the Rohingya as a minority.

He went on to say that when a law can be amended or changed, research findings and studies will be useful in drafting the new law, the Monogamy Law enacted during the previous government contains clauses that target religious minorities and promote discrimination against women. The NUG is also making efforts to repeal the Monogamy Law as soon as possible in cooperation with the parliament. The Minister Also stated that regarding the military operation against the Rohingya, the NUG will cooperate with the ICJ in order to establish the right precedent in this matter and accept the judgment of the ICJ.

https://bit.ly/3pRLkFI