



National Unity Government
Press Statement on Yadana Project
20 March, 2023



The National Unity Government today announces that it is sending a formal demand letter to the PTT Exploration and Production Public Company with respect to flows of funds from the Yadana Project. These funds are enabling the military junta to prosecute its violence against Myanmar people.

This action is necessitated by the ongoing human rights abuses and increased violence that the junta is inflicting on innocent civilians across our country.

The recent dreadful violence in Shan State is the latest in a long series of barbaric acts that have been condemned by the United Nations Security Council, by the United Nations Special Rapporteur and by governments across the world.

The United Nations, in Security Council Resolution 2669, expressed its *deep concern at all forms of violence across the country, and attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure*, and has demanded *an immediate end to all forms of violence throughout the country*.

To this end, it is imperative to stop the flow of foreign currency to the junta. It is this income that enables the junta to purchase the weapons that are being used to kill civilians indiscriminately, to attack hospitals and schools, and to inflict such huge suffering that, according to the United Nations, some 1,704,000 internally displaced persons have had to flee their homes since the coup. A further million people are seeking refuge in our neighbouring countries.

This is an immense human tragedy. All companies and governments should see it as their duty to assist the National Unity Government in stopping the funds to the junta that enable this violence, for the sake of our common humanity.

Impelled by these concerns, the National Unity Government is therefore delivering to PTT a formal demand letter with respect to the Yadana Project.

This letter seeks information on the revenues that have been delivered to the junta under the relevant contracts, as well as monthly reports and other details of work done since the coup.

The letter lays out that all future payments from the operation of the Yadana Project be delivered to an account that the National Unity Government shall designate, these funds to be retained there for the good of the people of Myanmar.

The National Unity Government seeks in no way to harm PTT, nor to interrupt supply. Our action is designed to enable PTT to ensure that its activities are aligned with fundamental human rights.

We will support PTT in the company's public commitment to follow the advice of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Our action follows PTT's decision to suspend some of its operations in Myanmar due to what PTT itself has called the "violence and unrest" in the country.

PTT did the right thing in suspending some activities. This letter provides PTT with a further opportunity to stand up for human rights, and against violence.

We hope that PTT will comply with the terms of our letter, and work with then National Unity Government.

If PTT do not engage with us in this process, we will have no choice but to commence an arbitration under the terms of the appropriate agreement, and to use international law to stop the use of these funds to pay for the junta's war against the fundamental human rights and dignity of the people of Myanmar.