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Statement on International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

Date: June 19, 2021

Today, on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Women's League of Burma (WLB) urges the general public to join our campaign against military impunity. WLB is committed to ending a nationwide pattern of sexual violence in conflict and to holding military junta accountable for sexual violence in conflict.

For over seven decades, the Burmese military has waged war in the ethnic states of Burma/Myanmar. Their use of systematic and widespread violence includes using rape as a weapon of war. WLB has consistently condemned this crime and has advocated for effective action against the Burmese military through international justice and accountability mechanisms.

Since the Burmese military forcibly seized power on Feb 1, 2021, they have cracked down on the peaceful movement by arresting, detaining, torturing innocent civilians, and even killing protesters. In addition, there is strong evidence claiming that the Burmese military has been intentionally committing sexual war crimes in ethnic war-torn areas for many years. The current junta security forces are committing widespread acts of sexual violence against detained women.

Therefore, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, we, the Women's League of Burma, call for the following:

- **Immediately send international missions, including the United Nations, to monitor and intervene to end arbitrary arrests, torture, killing and Sexual violence by the Burmese military, including the current state administration council.**
- **Refer the State Administration Council officials to the International Criminal Court (ICC) or similar international tribunal to bring justice for survivors and to end sexual violence in conflict and the killing and arrest of peaceful protesters. The military must be held accountable for their atrocity crimes.**

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