



Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Unity Government
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Statement (6/ 2024)
27 July 2024
7th Waning of Waso, 1386 ME

Statement on NUG's position on the 57th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting

1. The National Unity Government welcomes the continued attention of ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the situation in Myanmar. The National Unity Government expresses its position regarding the 57th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting as follows:-
2. As the legitimate representative of the Myanmar people, the National Unity Government continues to extend its full cooperation to ASEAN. The attempted coup staged by the military on February 1, 2021 was a direct insult to ASEAN's principles of democracy, the rule of law, and good governance, as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter.
3. Over three years have passed since the attempted coup, and the military junta continues to violate and obstruct the implementation of the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus (5PC). During this same period, the NUG and its ethnic partners have secured significant territorial control and have expanded their service provision and administrative governance. It follows that the National Unity Government and its ethnic and civil society partners are the legitimate dialogue partners for ASEAN. This situation calls for a comprehensive review of the 5PC, a renewed approach to engagement, and increased diplomatic pressure to hold the junta accountable for its actions. The continued presence and participation of military junta members and appointees in ASEAN-related meetings solely represents the interests of the junta, not the will or welfare of the people of Myanmar.
4. The junta's proposed "sham election", which aims to secure a fig-leaf of legitimacy, will not solve the ongoing crisis in Myanmar. Rather, it would exacerbate the situation and extend regional instability and insecurity. We urge ASEAN to prioritize sustainable solutions to address the root causes rather than short-term fixes, to reject this "sham election" process and to support the people of Myanmar in their pursuit of a genuine and sustainable federal democracy.

5. To address the ongoing conflict, we request ASEAN members to:
- (i) **Engage directly with the NUG and its ethnic and civil society partners as the legitimate representatives of Myanmar and its people**, including through a process to review and operationalise the 5PC.
 - (ii) **Increase pressure on the junta:** Impose targeted sanctions on the military leadership and entities supporting them, including restrictions on jet fuel to prevent indiscriminate airstrikes.
 - (iii) **Protect refugees:** Urge Myanmar's neighbouring countries to accept, protect, and assist those fleeing the violence in Myanmar.
 - (iv) **Facilitate cross-border humanitarian aid:** Establish mechanisms to deliver essential aid directly to those in need, including through ethnic and civil society channels, and bypassing the junta's obstructions to ensure aid reaches the most vulnerable communities.
 - (v) **Seek international support:** Build on point 17 of the 2023 ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision on the Implementation of the 5PC by specifying the kind of support that ASEAN seeks from external partners and the international community.

6. We believe ASEAN has a crucial leadership role in resolving the Myanmar crisis. We strongly urge swift and decisive action in consultation with the people of Myanmar to implement effective initiatives that address the root causes of the conflict and alleviate the suffering of the Myanmar people.

7. The NUG and its partners have developed a robust transition plan and implemented a comprehensive strategy toward restoring democracy, peace, and stability in Myanmar. We restate our readiness to work with ASEAN and all stakeholders to find a peaceful and just solution to the crisis. Together, we can restore democracy, peace, and stability to our country.

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