



Seven Alliances Call for Global Unity for the Freedom of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and National Reconciliation in Burma

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Introduction

We are outraged by the underhanded scheme of the Burmese military regime which is using trumped up charges against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to extend her detention. This unlawful action runs counter to the numerous calls by the United Nations and the international community to release her and also violates international and domestic laws as confirmed by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions.

We, the Seven Major Alliance Organizations of Burma democracy movement, have come to a conclusion that it is time for us and international community to strengthen and further synergize our efforts to bring about change in Burma through and inclusive political process towards a democratic federal union.

At this critical juncture we are determined to do our best to coordinate our advocacy efforts and to ensure that they are in harmony with the movements and actions of the democratic forces inside Burma and we urge the international community intensify their efforts and deliver collective and vigorous measures to bring about genuine national reconciliation in Burma.

Our Position

The current arbitrary detention and unlawful trial which Burmese military regime designed in order to extend the detention of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the basis of trumped up charges is totally unacceptable. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is not a threat to the security of Burma, but is an irreplaceable factor in bringing cooperation, unity, and political progression to the country. After decades of disastrous rule, with over 3300 villages destroyed by the military regime, 2100 political prisoners and countless victims of forced labors, systematic rape and a spiraling economy, it is absolutely vital that change comes to Burma without any further delay.

This is a political ploy and a dire setback to the National Reconciliation process called for by the UN, US, EU, ASEAN, and many others in the international community, as well as fully desired by the people of Burma. We have been working with many others inside Burma to push for genuine political dialogue in our country, and the people of Burma will keep working for this. However, the military regime has repeatedly shown through decades of systematic acts of inhumanity, the people of Burma are inconsequential. We improve for strong united international support as we work for peaceful democratic change.

The UN and the international community must take coordinated and firm measures to stop this show case trial and secure the unconditional and immediate release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners in Burma. This is a firm and nonnegotiable benchmarks that must be attained for peaceful and stable democratic progression in Burma.

Since the prosecution against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi violates domestic and international laws and even the one year extension of her house arrest last year was illegal, demands for change must be much stronger, nothing is acceptable except her release.

We call for the immediate cessation of this illegal prosecution and the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi immediately and unconditionally, as well as the release of all political prisoners.

Key Message

- Cessation of Illegal detention and Trial against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi
- Immediately and unconditionally release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners and allow them to play their rightful role in bringing genuine national reconciliation and peace to the country.
- Begin a genuine Political Dialogue and Constitutional Review of the 2008 constitution to at least start the task of genuine engagement and a return to democracy for the people of Burma. Until this is met we hold the 2010 elections to be a disastrous false process that will only entrench the military rule.

Objectives:

To mobilize coordinated and effective short term and long term diplomatic initiatives by UN, EU, US, ASEAN, China and India to create a conducive atmosphere for Political Dialogue in Burma. The military regime has been able to deflect and avoid pressure from the international community, but the time for change is now.

Calls to the UN and International Community

To secure the immediate and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners, the Burma's democracy movement calls on:

- The UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-moon must take active initiative and act to tailor and coordinate a collective strategic action plan. The international community has clearly stated the importance and urgency of the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners and UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon must accept nothing less than the immediate realization of this key benchmark. This must also be followed up with efforts to secure genuine political dialogue and a review of the 2008 constitution.

- The EU should immediately send its Burma envoy, US should hasten efforts to appoint their envoy and dispatch immediately. ASEAN should appoint and send an envoy, and they should work in full coordination with each other, as well as Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-Moon.

Unless Burma's military regime cooperates and meets the key benchmarks of 1) release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners and 2) inclusive political process towards national reconciliation, the democracy movement calls on the UN and the international community to impose the following measures against the military regime:

- The UN Security Council should pass an arms embargo to hinder the military regime from its brutal offensive against civilians.
- The Security Council should begin a Commission of Inquiry to investigate crimes against humanity.
- To support a challenge of the regime's credentials at the United Nations
- The US, UK and EU must impose stronger and targeted sanctions.
- ASEAN must take firmer actions against the military regime that continues to violate key principles of the ASEAN Charter: human rights, good governance, and rule of law.

Seven Major Alliance Organizations*

Ethnic Nationalities Council

Forum for Democracy in Burma

National Council of the Union of Burma

National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma

Nationalities Youth Forum

Students and Youth Congress of Burma

Women's League of Burma

*** The most broad-based and multi-ethnic cooperation of political and civil society organizations from inside and exile that for national reconciliation peace and freedom of Burma.**