

- **To : All governments of the Human Rights Council**
- **Sub.: Urgent Appeal to Asian Governments for Action at UN Human Rights Council (HRC) Special Session on Burma/Myanmar (2-3 Oct. 2007, Geneva)**

30 September 2007

Your Excellency,

We are writing to you on behalf of the undersigned human rights organisations. We have followed recent developments in Burma/Myanmar with horror. You will of course be well aware of the brutal manner in which the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) has responded to demonstrators who have been doing no more than peacefully exercising their internationally recognised human rights. We pay tribute to the courage and determination of the peoples of Burma, and stand alongside them as they struggle for democracy and human rights.

We therefore warmly welcome the decision of the Human Rights Council to convene a Special Session on the situation of human rights in Myanmar on 2 and 3 October in Geneva. If the Council is truly to establish itself as a credible and positive force for the protection of human rights, it is essential that it is able to respond in a decisive manner to gross and systematic human rights violations of this nature.

We also welcome the visit of UN Special Envoy, Dr. Ibrahim Agboola Gambari, to Burma/Myanmar, and hope that his visit will bring immediate and practical solutions to the human rights violations currently taking place inside Burma/Myanmar. However, we believe that his mandate would be complemented by a fact-finding mission by the UN Special Procedures.

The special session must lead to the adoption of an action-orientated resolution. This resolution must provide, at the very least, for the following:

- A) A **fact-finding mission**, mandated to thoroughly investigate recent gross human rights violations committed by the SPDC in response to peaceful demonstrations.
  - The mission should be led by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar and could also include international experts and/or relevant thematic mandate holders such as those dealing with human rights defenders, freedom of expression, arbitrary detention, torture, disappearance and extrajudicial execution.
  - The mission should report back to the Council, through the Council President, immediately after its return. The Council should preserve the option of convening another special session, depending on the assessment of the fact-finding mission.
  
- B) An **independent monitoring team**, mandated to assess the broader human rights situation – covering civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights – in Burma/Myanmar and to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of

the fact-finding mission. The monitoring team's assessment should lead to identification of root causes of gross human rights violations that have taken place in recent weeks.

- The monitoring team should be coordinated by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.
- The monitoring team should report to the Human Rights Council through the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. An ongoing UN presence on the ground is essential to prevent further human rights violations.

The time for mere words has passed; decisive action is now needed. The SPDC has once again shown its disregard for the international community and for the rights of its peoples. No state can condone such actions. The failure of the international community to prevent the massacre following the 1988 people's uprising must not be repeated. The future of the peoples of Burma depends on timely action by you.

As members of the UN Human Rights Council, you have the responsibility to enable the council to effectively implement its mandate – to prevent human rights violations and to protect the human rights of all peoples. The world is watching.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Naing Aung  
Secretary General  
Forum for Democracy in Burma (FDB)



Maung Maung  
General Secretary  
National Coalition of the Union of Burma (NCUB)



Bo Kyi  
Joint Secretary  
Assistance Association for Political Prisoners – Burma (AAPP)



Debbie Stothard  
Coordinator

Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma (ALTSEAN-Burma)

이성훈

Anselmo Lee  
Executive Director  
Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)

### **Contact Details**

Anselmo LEE, Executive Director  
Bangkok, Thailand  
The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)  
Tel : +66-81-868-9178 (mobile) / Fax : +66 (0)2 391 8764  
[anselmo@forum-asia.org](mailto:anselmo@forum-asia.org) / [www.forum-asia.org](http://www.forum-asia.org)

### **List of 218 NGOs in the Asia Pacific region that have endorsed the Urgent Appeal to Asian Government on UN Human Rights Council's Special Session on Burma/Myanmar (Geneva, 2-3 October 2007)**

*As at 1500 Bangkok Time, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007*

#### **Australia**

1. Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)
2. Australian Council of Trade Union (ACTU)
3. National Council of Churches in Australia - Christian World Service (NCCA-CWS)

#### **Bangladesh**

4. Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK)
5. Madaripur Legal Aid Association (MLAA)
6. Odhikar
7. Resource Integration Centre (RIC)

#### **Burma**

8. 1988 Students Generation
9. Assistance Association for Political Prisoners Burma (AAPP)
10. Association of Burma Ex-Political Prisoners (ABEP)
11. Burmese Women's Union (BWU)
12. Forum for Democracy in Burma (FDB)
13. Human Rights Education Institute of Burma (HREIB)
14. Karen Women's Organization (KWO)
15. Labour Union of Arakan (LUA)
16. Migrant Karen Labour Union (MKLU)
17. Matupi Students Union
18. National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB)

19. National Council of the Union of Burma (NCUB)
20. Overseas National Students' Organisation of Burma
21. Rakhaing Patriotic Literature Club (RPLC)
22. Seafarers' Union of Burma (SUB)
23. Yaung Chi Oo Workers Association (YCOWA)

#### **Cambodia**

24. Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC)
25. [Cambodia League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights \(LICADHO\)](#)

#### **India**

26. ADHIKAR, India
27. All Rabha Students' Union
28. Boro Peoples' Welfare Society
29. Centre for Organisation Research & Education (CORE)
30. Friend's Association for Rural Reconstruction (FARR)
31. Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples North East Zone (ICITP-NEZ)
32. Indigenous Peoples Forum of North East India
33. Jaintia Students' Federation
34. Legal Resources for Social Action (LRSA)
35. Mainao Welfare Society
36. Manab Adhikar Sangram Samiti (MASS)
37. North East Women Network
38. People's Watch
39. Rege-Regang
40. Self Employed Bodo Women's Association
41. Shwe Gas Pipeline Campaign Committee
42. Society for Aie Valley and Manash Area Road Communication Development

#### **Indonesia**

43. Aliansi Jurnalis Independen (AJI)
44. Aceh Judicial Monitoring Institute (AJMI)
45. Commission for the "Disappeared" and Victims of Violence (KONTRAS)
46. Human Rights Working Group (HRWG)
47. Ikatan Keluarga Orang Hilang Indonesia (IKOHI)
48. Indonesian Human Rights Monitor (IMPARSIAL)
49. Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association (PBHI)
50. Institut Dayakologi
51. Migrant CARE
52. Sekretariat Anak Merdeka Indonesia (SAMIN)
53. Yayasan Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Indonesia (YLBHI)

#### **Japan**

54. Ainu Resource Centre
55. Human Rights Now
56. Peace Boat

#### **Malaysia**

57. All Women's Action Society (AWAM)
58. Center for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC)
59. Center of Independent Journalism (CIJ)
60. Civil Rights Committee of The Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (CRC-KLSCAH)
61. Empower (Pusat Janadaya)
62. Education and Research Association for Consumer (ERA Consumer)
63. Jaringan Orang Asal Se Malaysia (JOAS)
64. Malaysia Youth and Students Democratic Movement (DEMA)
65. National Democratic Party for Human Rights (exile)
66. National Human Rights Society of Malaysia (HAKAM)
67. Rohingya Youth Development Forum (RYDF)
68. Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (SADIA)
69. Sisters in Islam (SIS)
70. Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM)
71. TENAGANITA
72. TIE Asia
73. Women's Aid Organisation (WAO)
74. Women's Development Collective (WDC)

### **Mongolia**

75. Center for Human Rights and Development (CHRD)
76. Globe International (GI)

### **Nepal**

77. Foundation for Democracy and Development
78. Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Coordination Committee (HRTMCC)
79. Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)
80. National Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC)
81. Women's Welfare Society (WWS)

### **Pakistan**

82. Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)
83. National Commission for Justice and Peace (NCJP)

### **Philippines**

84. Citizens' Council for Human Rights (CCHR)
85. Cordillera People's Alliance
86. Free Burma Coalition - Philippines (FBC)
87. Foundation for Media Alternatives (FMA)
88. Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute
89. Generation Peace Youth Network (GenPeace)
90. Lumad Peoples' Movement of Peace, Power and Righteousness (KTKI)
91. [Paglingkod Batas Pangkapapatiran Foundation \(PBPF\)](#)
92. [Paralegal Training and Services Center \(PTSC\)](#)
93. Partners of Community Organisation (PACOS TRUST)
94. Philippines Alliance for Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA)
95. [PILIPINA Legal Resources Center \(PLRC\)](#)
96. Tanggol-Kalikasan-Public Interest Environmental Law Office

97. [Task Force Detainees of the Philippines \(TFDP\)](#)
98. Youth for Sustainable Development Assembly

### **Singapore**

99. Think Centre

### **South Korea**

100. Action for Disabled and Human Rights
101. Amnesty International, South Korea Section
102. Ansan Worker Human Rights Center
103. Asia Pacific Worker Solidarity Links
104. Association for Foreign Workers
105. Association for Imprisoned Workers
106. Buddhism Human Rights Committee
107. Buddhism Human Rights Commitment
108. Burma Action Korea
109. Busan Human Rights Center
110. Catholic Committee for Human Rights
111. Counter Globalization Action (CGA)
112. Cultural Action/MINKAHYUP Human Rights Group
113. Dasan Human Rights Center
114. Democratic Legal Studies Association
115. Disabled People's International of Korea
116. Imagination for International Solidarity
117. Geochang Peace, Human-Right and Art Commitment
118. Human Rights Participatory Civil Solidarity
119. Human Rights Solidarity for New Society
120. Jeonbuk Solidarity for Peace and Human Rights
121. JINBO Korea
122. Joint Committee with Migrant in Korea
123. Korea Confederation of Trade Union (KCTU)
124. Korean Grand Alliance of Labor Union
125. Korean House for International Solidarity (KHIS)
126. Korea Labor Network (KLN)
127. Korean Sexual Minority Culture and Rights Centre
128. Korea Women's Associations United (KWAU)
129. Korea Women's Hot Line
130. KwangJu Human Rights Activities Center
131. Lawyers for a Democratic Society (MINBYUN)
132. May 18 Memorial Foundation
133. Meeting for Supporting Burma Democracy
134. National League for Democracy (Liberated Area) Korea Branch
135. Network for Migrants Rights
136. Network for World without War
137. OhSan Worker Cultural Center
138. OhSan Dasom Church

- 139. People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD)
- 140. Protesting Against Poverty & Discrimination Solidarity for Human Rights
- 141. People's Solidarity for Social Progress
- 142. SARANGBANG Group for Human Rights
- 143. Solidarity for Patriot
- 144. Solidarity for Peace & Human Rights of Asia
- 145. Solidarity for Human Rights of Gay in Korea
- 146. Solidarity for Unstable Workers
- 147. Ulsan Solidarity For Human Rights

### **Sri Lanka**

- 148. Community Trust Fund (CTF)
- 149. Information Monitor (INFORM)
- 150. Law and Society Trust (LST)

### **Taiwan**

- 151. Amnesty International, Taiwan Section
- 152. Buddhist Hongshi Association Taiwan Alliance to End Death Penalty (TAEDP)
- 153. Catuddisa Sangha
- 154. Chang Fo-chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights, Soochow University
- 155. Constitutional Reform Alliance in Taiwan
- 156. Fujen University John Paul II Peace Institute
- 157. Green Citizens' Action Alliance
- 158. Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)
- 159. Homemakers' Union and Foundation
- 160. Judicial Reform Foundation
- 161. Peacetime Foundation of Taiwan
- 162. Taiwan Aboriginal society
- 163. Taiwan Association for Human Rights (TAHR)
- 164. Taiwan Association for Rights Advancement for Ping Pu Plans Aborigine Peoples (TARA-Ping Pu)
- 165. Taiwan Aung San Suu Kyi Network (TASSKN)
- 166. Taiwan Friends of Tibet
- 167. Taiwan Hakka Alliance
- 168. Taiwan Labour Front
- 169. Taiwan Tibet Exchange Foundation
- 170. Taiwan Committee for Philippine Concerns
- 171. Taiwan Confederation of Trade Unions
- 172. Taiwan Green Party
- 173. Taiwan Peace at Grassroots
- 174. Taiwan Solidarity Union
- 175. TransAsia Sisters Association

### **Timor Leste**

- 176. East Timor Crisis Reflection Network (ETCRN)

- 177. Forum Tae Matam – Eyes on Human Rights
- 178. HAK Association
- 179. Igreja Protestante Timor Lorosae
- 180. Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP)
- 181. Timor Leste Institute for Reconstruction, Monitoring and Analysis (La’o Hamutuk)
- 182. Timor Leste Institute for Research, Advocacy and Campaign (Luta Hamutuk)
- 183. Yayasan Sosial Noroman

### **Thailand**

- 184. Activists Society for Change (ACS)
- 185. Burma Issues
- 186. Burma Peace Group
- 187. Center for Protection of Children's Rights Foundation (CPCR)
- 188. Empowering Peoples for Strong Civil Society (People’s Empowerment)
- 189. Indigenous Knowledge and Peoples (IKAP)
- 190. Students Federation of Thailand (SFT)
- 191. Workers Democracy Group (WD)

### **Regional/International NGOs**

- 192. Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)
- 193. Asian Center for Human Rights (ACHR), India
- 194. Asia Pacific Solidarity Coalition (APSOC)
- 195. ASEAN Trade Union Council (ATUC)
- 196. Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma (ALTSEAN-Burma)
- 197. Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in rural Asia (AsiaDHRRA), Philippines
- 198. Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)
- 199. Asia-Pacific People’s Partnership for Burma (APPPB)
- 200. Asian Indigenous Women's Network ( AIWN)
- 201. Asian Legal Resource Center (ALRC)
- 202. Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW)
- 203. Committee for Asian Women (CAW)
- 204. Coordination on Action Research on AIDS and Mobility (CARAM-Asia)
- 205. Earth Rights International (ERI)
- 206. Focus on the Global South (FGS)
- 207. Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women (GAATW)
- 208. Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID), Philippines
- 209. International Federation of Indigenous Youths' Associations
- 210. International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination (IMADR)
- 211. International Movement of Catholic Students Asia Pacific (IMCS-AP)
- 212. International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID)
- 213. International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP-AP)
- 214. Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)
- 215. Pacific Indigenous Peoples Environment Coalition (PIPEC)
- 216. Shwe Gas Movement (SGM)
- 217. Southeast Asia Rivers Network (SEARIN)

218. Tebtebba Foundation (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education), Philippines,