





## COMMITTEE REPRESENTING PYIDAUNGSU HLUTTAW

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43rd Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and 12th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court and the Rule of Law (CAP-ICC)

Discussion of Chairman H.E. Mr. Aung Kyi Nyunt, Delegation Leader of the Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Myanmar) at Panel on "The Role of Legislators in Atrocity-Prevention: Democratic Backsliding, a Precursor to gross Human Rights Violations?"

## Buenos Aires, Argentina (5 November 2022)

Honorable President of Chamber of Deputies of Argentina
Honorable PGA Chairman
Parliamentary colleagues
Distinguished Representatives of ICC
Ladies and Gentlemen

## Mingalabar!

It is a great pleasure for giving me this opportunity to participate in the panel discussion on "The Role of Legislators in Atrocity-Prevention: Democratic Backsliding, a Precursor to Gross Human Rights Violations?" today.

On behalf of CRPH which is formed by the elected parliamentarians in Myanmar, I would like to convey my sincere gratitude for your long-term efforts to the PGA families who have committed themselves to the work of promoting rule of law and human rights in the world.

Nowadays, we have vividly seen that a widespread terrors of atrocities, genocides, crimes against humanity and war crimes together with the threats on democracy in everywhere of our world. These notably base on lack of rule

of law and impunity and shielding those responsible from judicial actions and accountability.

By respecting the Rome Statute, the reformation of state laws should be necessarily changed by the legislatures in order to effectively and practically increase the capacity of the International Criminal Court (ICC). It is really important to establish a harmonious community for all human beings by collective efforts to strengthen rule of law and justice for peace, stability and prosperity in the world.

In our country, the military leader Min Aung Hlaing overthrew the civilian government and staged an illegal coup on 1 February 2021. He neglected the will of the citizens and wrongly accused that the electoral fraud was found in the 2020 general elections.

His action constitutes high treason because of their attempts to overthrow the government of Myanmar with arms forces and violations of State Constitution and the electoral laws. Hence, it's crystal clear that the military and its State Administrative Council is a rebel and, is not a legal government which is formed by the people or in accordance with the law of the country.

As country's legitimate representatives, CRPH announced the unlawful State Administrative Council as a terrorist group because the military have committed cruel and inhumane actions against civilians including peaceful demonstrators and government officials who joint the CDM Movement such as shot in the head, tortures, abuses, murders, arbitrary detentions and killings at military interrogation centers.

At present, not only the parliamentarians who were elected by the people but also our family, relatives and friends are suffering from the several threats and serious killings by the Military Honda. Nevertheless, as our duties as legislators, we are struggling to prevent such atrocities together with our ethnic and people' revolutionary forces and groups.

Since the attempted illegal coup, Myanmar people have requested international help in order to return power to the democratically elected civilian government, to release the political prisoners and all of the detainees, to revise democracy in our country. But, no matter how our voices have been asking to help the international community, we have been defending ourselves without defending any international community.

In addition, the number of deaths has been increasing, millions of people have been displaced due to the violence committed by the military. Thousands of people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. However, the global community has not handed their happy hands in an effective way. We believe that all of the international community have the responsibility to ensure that there is no rule for inhumane acts: atrocities, war crimes, crimes against humanities, such that there is no effective action to be taken to the State Administrative Council of military junta, then that impunity has been granted. That is why they have been escalating the inhumane activities and the violations in the country.

As the Honorable Representative of Maldives mentioned, and I agreed with her, we, the representatives will not stand with authoritarians actually because we are the representatives of the people.

Now, the military is committing a massive attack on numerous organizations including ethnic armed organizations and civilian resistance groups against illegal coup. That aims to disappear the movement of human rights and democracy in the country. We have tried together to protect against the massive use of violence by the military and airstrikes and to revise democratic principles and human rights. Now we are also trying to avoid the upcoming elections which are sham elections that have been planned to be conducted by the State Administrative Council of the military junta as the exit strategy of the coup.

Incriminated airstrikes have been committed several times by the military and massive weapons have been used to target civilian populations. This has happened several times. On the last 16 September this year, the military launched an airstrike on even a school of primary children in a small village of Sagaing Region, the upper region of the country and 13 people including 7 primary students were killed. The youngest student was 7 years old. Before he died, one child even requested his parents to make him die because he could not suffer from the pains that have been attacked by the military troops.

Also on 23rd October, the terrorist military also launched the systematic airstrikes at the Music concert celebrating for the 62nd Anniversary of Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) in Hpakant township, northern Kachin State and about 100 people have been death and seriously injured. There was a lack of health care to those injured which was stopped by the military.

Such atrocities and tortures should be stopped, only the international justice will be effective to take action against these military authoritarians. We, the National Unity Government and the elected members of parliament, are also ready to take part in all of the activities in unity with the international community to stop these atrocities. If we fail to take actions against those who are committing the war crimes targeting innocent civilians.

If the world fails to take actions against Rebel Leader Min Aung Hlaing and his groups, then the revival of democracy will not have happened in Myanmar. Myanmar citizens will keep on suffering from enormous pains and dangers. So, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and ICC have to listen to the voices of Myanmar people and try to bring justice to our citizens as soon as possible. The role of international MPs is also very important here, so, we together have to work hands-in-hands to ensure the democratic principles being grantees and democratic backsliding has been prevented.

To conclude, I here would like to urge the international community and international parliamentarians to fight for democracy.

Thank you very much.

