



13 July 2009

His Excellency Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General,
The United Nations,
1 United Nations Plaza
New York, New York 10017-3515

Re: Secretary-General to Brief Security Council on Myanmar

Dear Secretary-General,

We appreciate your effort to facilitate national reconciliation and democratization in our country, as mandated by successive General Assembly resolutions. We believe in your sincere willingness to bring about positive changes in Burma, also known as Myanmar, beginning with the release of all political prisoners, including our leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

However, we understand the limit of your good offices mandate. Without unanimous support from the Security Council, your mandate is not strong enough to make the ruling generals in Burma agree to your request. Your recent visit to Burma proved this point, as you were not allowed to meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and your requests to Senior General Than Shwe for the release of all political prisoners, and establishment of a meaningful political dialogue, were ignored. After nearly 20 years of UN diplomacy and engagement with Burma's senior generals, it is prudent for current UN officials, including yourself, to stop expecting that Than Shwe would respond positively to your requests. If you continue to believe the empty assertions of Burma's generals, you will be fulfilling the desire of Than Shwe and his generals, who want to buy time to finish their plan of legitimizing military rule in Burma through a sham election, scheduled for 2010. Without releasing all political prisoners, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and without revising this sham constitution through a tripartite dialogue, this upcoming election will be nothing more than a show.

You have done nothing wrong by visiting our country and trying to convince Than Shwe to positively address the concerns of the people of Burma, as supported by the international community. However, it would be wrong for you to mislead the international community by saying that the military regime will consider your proposals seriously. The previous inaccurate and misguided reporting by your Special

Envoy after his failed visits have already caused the international community to wait and see without taking action, while the people of Burma, including ethnic minorities, have been suffering crimes against humanity continuously. We urge you to recognize the ineffectiveness of the current diplomatic approach without the strong backing from the UN Security Council with a binding resolution to deal with Burma's military regime. We encourage you to redouble your efforts to impress upon China and Russia, veto yielding members of the Security Council, the importance of working together with the United States, United Kingdom and France to reach a mutually acceptable resolution on Burma at the Council, which will enforce and strengthen your good offices mandate, without further delay.

Sincerely yours,

All Burma Monks' Alliance (ABMA)

The 88 Generation Students

All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU)