



**Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar
to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations, Geneva**

Press Release No. 1/2010

1. The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Mr. Tomas Ojea Quintana, has issued a media statement entitled "Myanmar: UN Special Rapporteur calls for the immediate release of Aung San Suu Kyi" on 17 June 2010.

2. Mr. Quintana, in his statement mentioned that deprivation of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's liberty is arbitrary and also called for Myanmar to demonstrate respect and uphold the international human rights norms and principles by releasing all prisoners of conscience in order to enable their participation in the upcoming election.

3. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has been found guilty by the court on the violation of the Article 22 of the Law to Safeguard the State against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts and the Government of the Union of Myanmar was compelled to take actions against her.

4. Judicial actions were taken against her based on existing laws and judicial process and therefore not an arbitrary action. Since the matter falls wholly within the domestic jurisdiction of the country, no one should have the rights to criticize or interfere in the domestic judicial process of a sovereign state. In addition, it has been repeatedly explained that there are neither political prisoners nor prisoners of conscience in Myanmar but only those who are serving sentences for violation of the existing laws.

5. In Myanmar, holding of the general election will be the fifth step of the seven-step political Road Map which has been set to guide the

country forward to democracy. The Union Election Commission, which is an independent body, has been tasked and thus been undertaking all the necessary preparations for the holding of free, fair, credible and all inclusive elections.

6. Never before were there a prevalence of peace and tranquility and the consolidation of solidarity among the national races as in the current time in the history of Myanmar. At such a crucial time, Myanmar will not accept any external interference or dominance aimed to disrupt the upcoming election process in the country.

7. In this connection, the Special Rapporteur should refrain from unnecessary interfering in the internal affairs of a sovereign State and respect the Code of Conduct mandated by the Human Rights Council.

Date: 24th June 2010

