COMMITTEE ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

MYANMAR

Parliamentarians reportedly still serving their sentences:

CASE No. MYN/ 04 - KHI N MAUNG SWE
CASE No. MYN/ 13 - SAW NAING NAING
CASE No. MYN/ 35 - SAW HLAI NG
CASE No. MYN/ 60 - ZAW MYINT MAUNG
CASE No. MYN/ 104 - KYAW KHI N
CASE No. MYN/ 118 - THAN NYEIN
CASE No. MYN/ 119 - MAY WIN MYINT

CASE No. MYN/ 133 - YAW HIS
CASE No. MYN/ 215 - AUNG SOE MYINT
CASE No. MYN/ 234 - THAN HTAY
CASE No. MYN/ 236 - KHUN HTUN OO
CASE No. MYN/ 237 - KYAW SAN
CASE No. MYN/ 238 - KYAW MI N
CASE No. MYN/ 241 - KHI N MAUNG WI N

Parliamentarians who died in custody:

CASE No. MYN/ 53 - HLA THAN
CASE No. MYN/ 55 - TI N MAUNG WI N
CASE No. MYN/ 72 - SAW WI N

CASE No. MYN/ 83 - KYAW MI N
CASE No. MYN/ 131 - HLA KHI N
CASE No. MYN/ 132 - AUN MI N

Parliamentarians who were assassinated:

CASE No. MYN/ 66 - WI N KO
CASE No. MYN/ 67 - HLA PE

Decision adopted by the Committee at its 116th session
(Geneva, 15 - 18 January 2007)

The Committee,

Referring to the outline of the case of the above-mentioned members-elect of the Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Assembly) of the Union of Myanmar and to the resolution adopted by the Governing Council at its 179th session (October 2006),

Recalling its following long-standing concerns in this case:

- the complete lack of respect for the results of the election of 27 May 1990;
- the continuous elimination from the political process of parliamentarians-elect by various means, including arbitrary arrest, detention and sentencing under laws infringing basic international human rights standards, and pressure to resign from the National League for Democracy (NLD) and so relinquish their status as elected members of parliament;
- the continuing detention of the parliamentarians-elect on the basis of laws breach ing fundamental rights and human rights principles;
- the reconvening of the National Convention on the basis of the same detailed blueprint for a unitary, military-dominated State which had guided the Convention when it was first set up in 1993,

Recalling the following: in February 2006, the NLD called for the authorities to convene parliament on the basis of the 1990 election results in order that, in turn, it could declare the current authorities to be the legitimate transitional government pending new elections and the establishment of a
democratic government; the appeal includes a call for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and her inclusion in the negotiations and suggests that a prominent leader from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) play the role of mediator; the appeal has remained unanswered by the authorities,

Recalling further the many parliamentary initiatives throughout the world in favour of the parliamentarians-elect and the promotion of democracy in Myanmar, in particular the work of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Caucus on Myanmar,

Recalling lastly that the United Nations Security Council was informally briefed on the situation in Myanmar for the first time in December 2005, that the United Nations Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs, Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, subsequently made two official visits to Myanmar in 2006, on which he also briefed the Security Council, and that between these visits, the situation in Myanmar was placed on the agenda of the Security Council meeting of 29 September 2006,

Considering that on 9 January 2007, the United States of America submitted a draft resolution to the Security Council calling on Myanmar to release all political prisoners, begin widespread dialogue and end its military attacks and human rights abuses against ethnic minorities, that the draft was the subject of a vote on 12 January 2007 and received nine votes in favour, and that China and the Russian Federation prevented its adoption by issuing vetoes, though not without highlighting that serious problems existed in Myanmar,

1. Reaffirms its conviction that the National Convention, in its present form, is designed to prolong and legitimize military rule against the will of the people as expressed in the 1990 elections, and that any transition towards democracy will fail so long as it is not genuinely free, transparent and reflective of the people’s will, and preceded by the unconditional release of all political prisoners and the lifting of all restrictions on human rights and political activity;

2. Deplores the lack of any willingness on the part of the authorities to address these concerns, and urges them once again to release the 14 parliamentarians-elect still imprisoned forthwith and to engage in a genuine dialogue with those who were elected in the 1990 elections, in particular by giving serious consideration to the proposal made by the NLD;

3. Renews its call on the international community to help bring about respect for democratic principles in Myanmar, takes note of the latest developments at the Security Council and calls on the parliaments of the countries which are members of the Security Council to press their governments to ensure full and continuing consideration of the situation in Myanmar by the Security Council, also calls again on the Member Parliaments of the IPU, in particular China and India as neighbouring countries, to pursue and strengthen their national, regional and international initiatives in favour of the parliamentarians-elect and in support of respect for democratic principles in Myanmar, and encourages the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Caucus on Myanmar to continue its important work;

4. Requests the Secretary General to convey this decision to the authorities and to all others concerned and to look into the possibility of organizing an event focusing on Myanmar in the framework of the 116th IPU Assembly, which is to be held in Indonesia;

5. Decides to continue examining this case at its next session, to be held during the 116th IPU Assembly (Nusa Dua, April-May 2007).