

Request to condemn and protest against the Myanmar coup

19 February 2021

Dear Mr. MOTEGI, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The military coup is an unjustified subversion of the will of the people of Myanmar as expressed in the general election held in November 2020, and it is the act against the flow of democracy in Myanmar. The international trade union movement, led by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), of which Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO) is affiliated, protests against the actions of the Myanmar military and calls on governments to publicly condemn the coup, prevent it from succeeding, release all those unlawfully detained, and stop the violence against the people of Myanmar.

RENGO urges the government of Japan to heed the call of the international labour movement and to take the following steps to ensure that the state power in the hands of the military is transferred to a democratic system with the international cooperation:

- Publicly condemn the coup d'état in Myanmar.
- Not recognise or appease the military.
- Request the United Nations General Assembly to keep the Myanmar seat vacant until the elected representatives can form a parliament and a government.
- Support the adoption of an urgent resolution of the UN Security Council, including sanctions for the coup leaders and an arms embargo.
- Call for a special session of the UN Human Rights Council to review the situation in Myanmar; to call for the release of everyone arrested pursuant to the coup; and to mandate the Special Rapporteur on Myanmar to monitor and issue a special report on the human rights situation, including arrests, compliance with freedom of association, protection of protestors, respect for the right to peaceful assembly and protests and the right to opinion, expression and speech, including reliance on information technology platforms.
- Implement comprehensive economic sanctions to stop any and all revenue to the military.
- Immediately cease all military cooperation and arms trade with Myanmar.
- Expose and hold to account all lobby firms employed by Myanmar's military.
- Trace supply chains of military-run companies to ensure full application of economic sanctions.
- Support and assist all refugees from Myanmar's military persecution.
- Protect Myanmar's diplomatic staff in our country.

Yours sincerely,

Rikio KOZU

President

Japanese Trade Union Conferetaion