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Nigel Adams MP
Minister for Asia
FCDO

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Dear Nigel,

We share your very serious concerns over recent events in Burma and the military's ongoing campaign of terror against the Rohingya and other minorities. We also welcome the statements by the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary, who are clear in HMG's condemnation of the coup and the unlawful detention of political and civil society leaders.

The UK already has several measures in place in response to the crisis. However, the Tatmadaw's grip on power is operating at a scale and pace we have not seen for many years. We have heard from our partners in Burma that military offensives are ongoing in northern Shan, Kachin and Karen states, causing mass displacement of civilians. Much more needs to be done to protect those in greatest need and to ensure that military leaders begin to relent. In particular, we urge you to respond to these four priorities, which have been identified by our in-country partners as urgent concerns:

1. The existing sanctions regime is not fit for purpose. The UK must impose robust, targeted sanctions not only on military leaders but on military enterprises and assets.
2. To date, the UK has not backed formally The Gambia's case before the ICJ to protect the rights of the Rohingya – thereby missing an important opportunity to send a clear message to the Tatmadaw.
3. In its effort to build a coalition of countries willing to impose a global arms embargo, the UK must lead proposals within the UNSC to ensure that more weapons do not get into states already suffering military offensives.
4. As part of HMG's aid review, we urge the UK to provide cross-border aid to internally displaced peoples in the ethnic states – engaging directly with in-state leaders of ethnic groups and NGOs working with them – because aid delivered through Yangon itself will not reach the most vulnerable people in the border regions.

While you rightly condemn the military coup and ongoing atrocities, we urge you to take more effective and urgent action.

Yours sincerely,