Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

The Rt Hon the Baroness Winterton of Doncaster DBE
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The Lord Alton of Liverpool
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Dear Lord Alton of Liverpool, Sam Mason and Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust,

Thank you for your correspondence of 3 September, about Myanmar. I am replying as Minister for the Indo-Pacific.

I agree that local organisations are often best placed to reach those most in need. Since the coup, the UK has provided more than £260 million in life-saving humanitarian assistance, emergency healthcare, education support and assistance to civil society and local communities, with over 65 per cent of funds directed to local organisations. This includes support for ethnic and community health providers able to reach vulnerable people in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach areas. We continue to press, through the UN and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), for full and unhindered humanitarian access, and to encourage international partners to adopt a more locally led approach.

On constraining the military's capacity to wage war, the UK has imposed sanctions on 42 individuals and 39 entities since the coup, through 19 rounds of targeted sanctions aimed at the regime's access to finance, arms and equipment. These include 10 designations targeting the supply of aviation fuel, and we have made clear to UK businesses, including the insurance sector, that they must conduct thorough due diligence so that jet fuel does not reach the military. UK sanctions also include a comprehensive arms embargo. We are not ruling out further action, but it would be inappropriate to speculate on future designations, as doing so could reduce their impact.

The UK is equally clear that there must be accountability for the atrocities committed in Myanmar. We support the International Criminal Court Prosecutor's investigation into crimes committed against the Rohingya and respect the Court's independence. Alongside five partners, we have also intervened in The Gambia's case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice, and the UK-established Myanmar Witness programme continues to gather and preserve evidence of human rights violations to support future justice.

I also recognise the importance of engaging beyond established channels. We value our close engagement with the National Unity Government, ethnic resistance organisations and other pro-democracy actors, and we are committed to supporting a plurality of voices, including emerging civic, humanitarian and governance institutions, and work to protect civic space and human rights. I have noted your reference to the Institute of Peace and Federal Democracy, and officials will continue to engage widely as Myanmar's political landscape evolves.

Yours ever,



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