

From Condemnation to Action: Response to ASEAN's Statement on Mrauk-U

21 December, 2025

We, the National Unity Consultative Council (NUCC), welcome and appreciate the issuance of the ASEAN Chair's Statement of **13 December 2025** concerning the airstrike on Mrauk-U Hospital in Western Arakan State. NUCC acknowledges ASEAN's expression of deep concern, condemnation of the attack, and reaffirmation of the importance of international humanitarian law, including the protection of civilians and medical facilities.

At the same time, the gravity, scale, and persistence of violence in Myanmar demand that expressions of concern be accompanied by **timely, concrete, and measurable actions**. Repeated appeals and condemnation, without effective enforcement or accountability, have regrettably failed to prevent further atrocities or protect civilian lives.

The airstrike on Mrauk-U Hospital constitutes a **serious violation of international humanitarian law**. The deliberate targeting of a protected medical facility and civilians meets the threshold of a **war crime under applicable international legal standards**. Explicit recognition of this violation, accompanied by concrete action to prevent the military junta's continued attacks against civilians, is essential to deter future violations and to uphold the credibility and integrity of international norms.

Moreover, the attack on Mrauk-U Hospital must be viewed within the broader and ongoing pattern of violence. In the days following the incident, **continued airstrikes across Rakhine State**, along with **aerial attacks and acts of terror in other parts of Myanmar including Singu, Nattalin, Kyaukgyi, and additional areas**, have resulted in further civilian casualties and destruction of civilian infrastructure.

With respect to the Five-Point Consensus, we reaffirm that its relevance depends on implementation that is responsive to current realities and centered on the protection of civilians.

From the perspective of the revolutionary and federal democratic forces, meaningful progress requires:

- An immediate, nationwide, and verifiable cessation of airstrikes and all attacks against civilians;
- Safe, sustained, and unhindered humanitarian access nationwide, carried out in coordination with legitimate representatives of the people and independent civil society organizations, without military interference;
- An inclusive political process that reflects the will of the people and meaningfully engages democratic and revolutionary stakeholders, and that does not legitimize or entrench military control; and
- Concrete and time-bound steps toward accountability for serious violations of international law.

NUCC further respectfully but firmly call upon ASEAN to **immediately suspend all forms of military engagement, cooperation, or operational support with the Myanmar military**, including through the **ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and related mechanisms**. Continued defense-level engagement risks undermining ASEAN's stated commitments, eroding its credibility, and may be perceived as enabling ongoing violations against civilians.

The people of Myanmar continue to bear the devastating consequences of unchecked violence, including mass displacement, loss of life, and the systematic destruction of civilian infrastructure. At this critical juncture, ASEAN's leadership will be judged not by the strength of its statements but by its willingness to act with unity, resolve, and moral clarity. NUCC therefore urges ASEAN to translate principled commitments into decisive action in support of civilian protection, accountability, and a just and lasting peace in Myanmar.