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| From: | **Union Attorney General**  **U Tun Tun Oo**  **Office No. 25**  **Nay Pyi Taw,**  **Republic of the Union of Myanmar** |

Place, Date

Dear Attorney General,

The two journalists Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo were arrested on 12 December 2017 because they were investigating a violent army crackdown on Rohingyas in N.Rakhine State, and in particular the execution of ten Rohingya men by soldiers and members oft the police in the village of Inn Din, Maungdaw township in early September 2017. The military admitted that soldiers had been involved in the killings. For Amnesty International and the International Community the two journalists were acting according to international law and the UN Conventions and are therefore innocent prisoners of conscience.

There has been a worrying erosion of press freedom in Myanmar in the last two years. Those who report on sensitive subjects - in particular military abuses - face intimidation and harassment and at times arrest, detention, prosecution and even imprisonment. The right to freedom of expression is enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and in International Law to which Myanmar is also subjected.

We therefore urge the Myanmar Government to release Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo immediately and unconditionally, as they have been detained solely fort the peaceful exercise of their human right to freedom of expression;

We appeal to the authorities to repeal or amend all laws – including the 1923 Official Secrets Act – which criminalize or impose arbitrary or sweeping restrictions on the human right to freedom of expression, and bring Myanmar legislation into line with International Human Rights Law and Standards;

We further request them to ensure that journalists in Myanmar are free from harassment, discrimination, and the threat of criminalization, and that they are able to conduct their important work in safety.

We trust that the Myanmar authorities will do their utmost to abide by their obligation to International Law and the UN Conventions and we will monitor the process against Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oe closely.

Yours sincerely

**Copies go to:** President U Win Myin; State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Ky; Diplomatic Representative in Switzerland

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| From: | **President**  **U Win Myint**  **President’s Office, Office No. 18**  **Nay Pyi Taw**  **Republic of the Union of Myanmar** |

Place, Date

Your Excellency,

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