

**STATEMENT BY
THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS
OF INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, AND THAILAND
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE PROVIDOR OF TIMOR LESTE
ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN MYANMAR**

At the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions in Sydney, 24-27 September, the National Human Rights Commissions of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand, in association with the Provider of Timor Leste

Learning of the recent incidents of human rights violations related to the peaceful demonstrations in Myanmar with grave concern;

Recognizing the people's basic rights and fundamental freedoms to peaceful assembly, to express their opinions and to participate in public affairs;

Acknowledging the ASEAN governments' aspiration to become a *people-centred organization*, especially through the upcoming ASEAN Charter;

Also acknowledging that the full respect for people's basic rights and fundamental freedoms is the foundation of peace, stability and progress of ASEAN;

Therefore,

Express grave concern over the precarious human rights situation in Myanmar, especially the latest report on the suppression of the people's peaceful protest by the government leading to loss of lives and injuries;

Condemn the use of violence and disproportionate force, including lethal weapons, against unarmed peaceful demonstrators, including Buddhist monks;

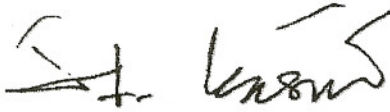
Urge all parties in Myanmar to exercise restraint and to strictly abide by peaceful means in the resolution of their issues, particularly for the government of Myanmar to absolutely refrain from the further use of disproportionate force and firearms against the demonstrators;

Also urge the government of Myanmar to observe the basic principles, norms and standards of human rights, particularly in the treatment, arrest and detention of demonstrators and activists;

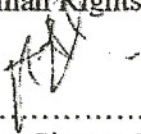
Encourage the ASEAN governments, individually and collectively, to take urgent action to ensure that Myanmar as a Member State adhere to observe the basic principles, norms and standards of human rights, and the rule of law; and

Decide to pursue the matter with our respective governments.

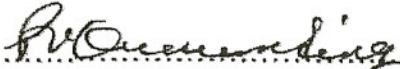
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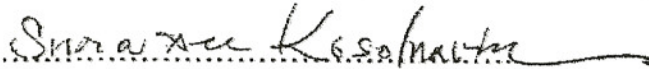
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Ifdhal Kasim, Chairperson
National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia (Komnas HAM)



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Tan Sri Simon Sipaun, Vice Chairman
Human Rights Commission on Malaysia (SUHAKAM)

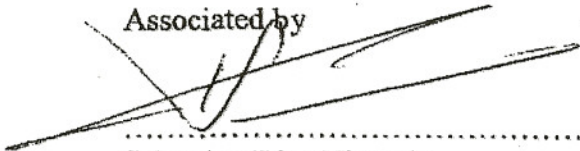


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Purificacion C. Valera Quisumbing, Chairperson
Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines



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Surasee Kosolnavin, Commissioner
National Human Rights Commission of Thailand

Associated by



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Sebastiao Dias Ximenis
Provedor of Timor Leste