The Myanmar Accountability Project Welcomes Agreement at the United Nations Not to Recognise the Myanmar Junta

Press release for immediate publication from The Myanmar Accountability Project, MAP

London, 15 September 2021: The Myanmar Accountability Project welcomes the agreement at the United Nations reported by Foreign Policy not to recognise the credentials of Myanmar Junta at the 76th session of the General Assembly. MAP Director, Chris Gunness said "the deal sends a clear signal to the junta that their brute force terror campaign has to end or they face continued isolation and pariah status. Peaceful dialogue with the National Unity Government (NUG) is the only way forward. The people of Myanmar should know that the international community stands with them at a time of grave crisis."

The agreement to defer consideration of the junta's credentials leaves in his seat Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun, representing the National Unity Government whose members won elections in November last year by a landslide.

"The diplomatic battle has been won, but not the war," Gunness continued, "we will continue to advocate robustly for official recognition of the credentials of the NUG and definitively reject those of the junta. The world wept with Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun when he spoke out so passionately in the General Assembly after the coup, and at the appropriate time, we trust he will continue to advocate powerfully for his people."

All eyes will be on the UN Credentials Committee in November when it is expected to discuss the issue. In the meantime, MAP has sent to key UN member state delegations, including all those on the Credentials Committee, a landmark <u>legal opinion</u>, drafted by eleven of the world's leading international law experts.

The opinion sets out powerful legal arguments why the UN should continue to reject the credentials of an increasingly discredited junta and accept those of the NUG. You can find the opinion here:

<u>Mvanmar-Legal-Opinion-Final-2.pdf</u> (the-world-is-watching.org)

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