Joint Statement The Execution of 7 Students Sentenced to Death by the Military Tribunal

Seven students of Dagon University namely Ko Khant Zin Win, Ko Thura Maung Maung, Ko Zaw Lin Naing, Ko Thiha Htet Zaw, Ko Hein Htet, Ko Thet Paing Oo and Ko Khant Linn Maung Maung were sentenced to death penalty on April 2022 for their involvement of the anti-regime protest, whom seek freedom from the militaristic lifes in Myanmar which is far from fulfilling and safe. The execution will take place on 7th December 2022 in the early morning. The activity itself revolved around the shooting of Global Treasure Bank Branch Manager, Saw Moe Win, who was a former military officer. Therefore, the UN foresee this crime as an act of vengeance towards the death of the veteran¹

This is not the first death sentence given to the civil society. Since the February 2021 coup, in total, 139 civilians were sentence to death penalty. Four of them were executed on 25th July; Kyaw Min Yu aka Ko Jimmy, Phyo Zayar Thaw, Hla Myo Aung, Aung Thura Zaw. The act of wrath caused several international entities to corner the military Junta to stop several other human rights violations and torturing. The United Nations have also tried to encourage the government to abolish such acts, but no responses were given by the Junta.²

Another pattern is also found where tribunal hearings are announced in the last minutes before the agenda so that detainees don't have access to contact lawyers nor their family.³ Whereas it is essential for the detainees to defend themselves before being judged and convicted in a very inhumane way.

For starters, The Military Junta was settled to take part and comply with the Five Point Consensus (FPCs) which was arranged and hopefully to be implemented by them. But Instead, two days after the ratification of FPCs, The Military Junta withdrew their commitment. This then fueled more on the torture, death penalty, and extrajudicial killings in Myamar.

Within this statement, the civil society organization of Anti-Junta Military would like to push ASEAN as well as other international governmental entities to make immediate and urgent action to stop the execution of the mentioned 7 students and to conduct fair trials as well as proper due process. This is also to encourage the Government of Indonesia to be more prompt in handling Myanmar's death penalty cases, since Indonesia will take part as the next Chair of ASEAN 2023.

Sincerely,

The Indonesian and Asian Coalition on Anti-Regime.

¹ https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-sentences-seven-students-to-death.html

² https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/7-students-sentenced-to-death-by-myanmar-junta-un-3574393

³ Ibid.