

Governing Body

343rd Session, Geneva, November 2021

Institutional Section

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Follow-up to the resolutions concerning Myanmar adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 102nd (2013) and 109th (2021) Sessions

► Introduction

1. At its 342nd Session (June 2021), having considered the report submitted by the Office containing an update on the situation in Myanmar and on additional measures to promote the restoration of workers' rights,¹ and noting the resolution for a return to democracy and respect for fundamental rights in Myanmar adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 109th Session (2021),² the Governing Body:
 - (a) expressed profound concern that the situation in Myanmar has deteriorated and that no progress has been made to respect the will of the people, respect democratic institutions and processes, and restore the democratically elected government;

¹ GB.342/INS/5.

² ILO, [Resolution for a return to democracy and respect for fundamental rights in Myanmar](#), International Labour Conference, 109th Session, 2021.

- (b) expressed profound concern over ongoing practices of the military authorities including the large-scale use of lethal violence and the use of forced labour, as well as the harassment, ongoing intimidation, arrests and detentions of trade unionists and others, including the Rohingya, for exercising their human rights, and called on the military authorities to cease immediately such activities, and to release from detention and drop any charges against trade unionists who have peacefully participated in protest activities;
- (c) expressed deep concern that the military authorities have taken no steps to respect and protect the status of the ILO Liaison Office in Myanmar and all ILO staff in Myanmar and to refrain from interference in its operations in keeping with the principles of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947;
- (d) expressed its grave concern that measures curtailing freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly remain in place and that further restrictions have been implemented by the military authorities on the internet, and called again for the immediate repeal of such measures and for guarantees of the freedom of workers' and employers' organizations to undertake their activities freely and without threat of intimidation or harm;
- (e) urged Myanmar to uphold fully and without delay its obligations under the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and to ensure that workers' and employers' organizations are able to exercise their rights in a climate of freedom and security, free from violence, arbitrary arrest, and detention;
- (f) repeated its call for the Civil Services Personnel Law, the Settlement of Labour Disputes Law and the Labour Organization Law to be amended without delay, once the democratically elected government has been restored, consistent with Convention No. 87;
- (g) acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the efforts of the ILO Liaison Office in Myanmar to continue to work to implement development cooperation programmes focusing on decent work and promoting labour rights; and
- (h) requested the Director-General to report to the 343rd Session (November 2021) of the Governing Body on developments in Myanmar.

▶ General developments

2. This document provides an overview of developments in Myanmar since the Office reported in June 2021. This overview has drawn on information from multiple United Nations (UN) sources and other organizations that have been monitoring the situation in Myanmar. The Office will provide further information orally to the Governing Body.
3. On 27 July 2021, the military-appointed Union Election Commission annulled the results of the election of 8 November 2020 on the grounds of voter fraud. On 1 August 2021, the Management Committee of the State Administration Council was reconstituted as the "Provisional Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar". The same day, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services declared himself Prime Minister of the Provisional Government and said that he will lead the country under the extended state of emergency until elections are held in two years' time.

4. The security situation has continued to deteriorate, with a disproportionate use of force by the military authorities against demonstrators, which have declined in number compared to the months immediately following the military takeover. Explosions and attacks are reported in many regions, targeting a range of public and private facilities as well as homes.
5. On 7 September 2021, the National Unity Government announced a “people’s defensive war” against the military, inter alia outlining action to be taken by the People’s Defence Force established by the National Unity Government against the military and its assets. On 9 September, the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) issued a message that was consistent with the reactions from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and others, calling for the exercise of the utmost restraint, in order to seek a peaceful solution through constructive dialogue and practical reconciliation in the interests of people and their livelihoods.
6. Police and military raids on homes and villages continue to take place, with the sustained use of intimidation and violence against civilians. Multiple UN sources indicate that, as at 1 September 2021, security forces had killed more than 1,000 people and at least 3,730 people remain in detention. President Win Myint and State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi also remain in detention and face a number of charges.
7. Section 505A of the Penal Code, as amended by the military authorities, continues to be used to prosecute individuals who engage in activities such as posting material on social media, publishing media stories or engaging in activities associated with the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM). The CDM has continued to be active across a wide cross-section of society, including public and private sector workers, although the exact number of participants cannot be quantified.
8. The laws and orders implemented by the military authorities since 1 February 2021 that suppress and criminalize dissent and the enhanced surveillance measures referred to in previous reports also remain in place.³ These include amendments to the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Law Protecting the Privacy and Security of Citizens 2017. Furthermore, the system that was reintroduced by the military authorities under the Ward or Village Tract Administration Law requiring overnight guests to be registered with township ward administration offices continues to be applied and checks continue to be carried out. Martial law orders remain in place in 11 townships in the Mandalay Region and in Yangon, where many factories are located, as well as in the town of Mindat.
9. There is continued criticism by the military authorities of independent reporting on the human rights situation by the media or other agencies. On 6 September 2021, a media statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs alleged that the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General of the UN frequently mentioned Myanmar in its daily briefings and was selectively targeting the country, and that the concerns of the UN country team were never channelled to and verified with the Ministry. It called on UN personnel to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of the country.
10. On 2 August 2021, the military authorities amended the Counter-Terrorism Law to provide for a penalty of up to seven years’ imprisonment for acts of extortion, persuasion, propaganda or recruitment of any person to participate in any terrorist group or activities of terrorism. Prior to this, on 8 May, the military authorities had issued

³ GB.342/INS/5 and GB.341/INS/17(Add.1).

an order declaring that the Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (the elected members of Parliament), the National Unity Government and the People's Defence Force were terrorist organizations.

11. As at 5 September 2021, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimated that 181,000 people had been internally displaced since 1 February 2021 and remained displaced. The humanitarian situation for internally displaced persons, including Rohingya, is critical, with many living in precarious conditions with limited access to water, sanitation, hygiene, food, healthcare and shelter. The Rakhine State Administration Council has also reportedly placed restrictions on the scope of activities undertaken by international humanitarian organizations.
12. There is continued pressure on the banking system, with shortages of cash and restrictions on withdrawals affecting economic activities across the country. The World Bank's *Myanmar Economic Monitor*, released in July 2021, estimates that Myanmar's economy will contract around a further 18 per cent in the 2021 fiscal year (October 2020–September 2021). In addition, according to a World Food Programme situation report for Myanmar, the cost of a basic food basket increased by 16 per cent between 1 February and June 2021.
13. Following the adoption of a Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar at the ASEAN leaders' meeting in Jakarta on 24 April 2021, which was also attended by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of Myanmar, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam was appointed as Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar. On 5 September 2021, he called for a four-month ceasefire by all parties to allow for the delivery of ASEAN humanitarian assistance.
14. The impact of the military takeover and the ensuing humanitarian crisis has been exacerbated by a third wave of COVID-19. Community transmission accelerated from June 2021 with a large number of infections and fatalities across the country. As at 5 September 2021, 415,416 cases of COVID-19 and 15,891 COVID-19-related deaths had been reported since the beginning of the pandemic. However, it is likely that these figures are a significant underestimate, due to the limited availability of testing and medical facilities. In an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19, dozens of townships are subject to stay-at-home orders and restrictions on inbound international flights remain in place.

▶ The question of representation of Myanmar in the ILO

15. It is recalled that the Credentials Committee of the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2021) considered conflicting credentials received from the State Administration Council and the National Unity Government, both claiming to represent the legitimate government of Myanmar. In its decision, the Committee *inter alia* recalled that, according to resolution 396(V), adopted on 14 December 1950 by the UN General Assembly, whenever more than one authority claims to be the government entitled to represent a State, the attitude adopted by the General Assembly concerning any such question should be taken into account in other organs of the UN and in the specialized agencies. The Committee also recalled the decision of the Governing Body of 10 March 1951 drawing the Conference's attention to that resolution in order that the Conference take into account the position adopted by the UN.

16. The Credentials Committee concluded that this is a matter for the UN General Assembly and that it could not proceed to accredit delegates for Myanmar. However, it noted that it would remain seized of this matter and may reconvene, in particular in the event that the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly makes a determination before the close of the 109th Session of the Conference on 11 December 2021.⁴ At the time this document was finalized, the Credentials Committee of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly had not yet examined the question of Myanmar's representation.

▶ Impact on ILO constituents

17. The Confederation of Trade Unions Myanmar (CTUM), the Agriculture and Farmer Federation of Myanmar–International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (AFFM-IUF) and the Myanmar Industry, Crafts and Services Trade Union Federation (MICS-TUF), representing workers, were among the signatories to the Myanmar Decent Work Country Programme, together with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), representing employers. While the CTUM, the AFFM-IUF and MICS-TUF have not been declared illegal organizations by the military authorities, they have been subject to threats, intimidation and persecution, which has impacted their activities. Trade union leaders, as well as a number of members and labour activists among the wider trade union movement, are in hiding.
18. As previously reported, in February 2021 the CTUM and MICS-TUF suspended their participation in tripartite activities. However, on 3 August, the State-controlled media reported that the military authorities had called a tripartite meeting with representative organizations of employers and workers to discuss responses to COVID-19, which included the CTUM and MICS-TUF. Both the CTUM and MICS-TUF released statements indicating that their representatives did not participate in the meeting. Representatives of the AFFM-IUF did not participate either.
19. The CTUM reports that, since the military takeover, 35 of its leaders and members have been arrested, including 21 from railway unions and 7 from teachers unions. A further nine workers from partner organizations have been arrested, including 3 from Solidarity Trade Union Myanmar and 1 from the All Burma Federation of Trade Unions. In addition, 48 CTUM leaders and members have warrants out for their arrest and 25 have had their passports cancelled.
20. The General Secretary of MICS-TUF was arrested by the military authorities on 18 June 2021. He was transferred to Insein Prison in Yangon on 30 July and was denied access to legal representation. On 23 August, at the South Dagon Township court in Yangon, he appeared without a lawyer on a charge under section 17(1) of the Unlawful Association Act. It is understood that he may also face a charge under section 505(b) of the Penal Code. As previously reported, on 14 June, the military and the police searched his house and raided the MICS-TUF office in Mandalay. Subsequently, on 15 June, the MICS-TUF headquarters in Yangon was also raided by the authorities.
21. On 26 July 2021, the Office requested the Ministry of Labour to provide information on and the reasons for the General Secretary's detention. On 25 August, it sent a note

⁴ ILC.109/Record No. 3B.

verbale to the Permanent Mission of Myanmar in Geneva, calling for his immediate release and the release of other trade unionists and activists who have been detained. It also referred to other acts of persecution, including the cancellation of the passports of all CTUM executive committee members and the issuance of arrest warrants against a number of trade union leaders, as referred to in its June 2021 report to Governing Body. No response has been received in relation to either communication.

- 22.** The UMFCCI reported a number of factory closures, job losses and a reduction of orders from overseas markets in the garment sector. The UMFCCI is working on issues concerning banking and cash flow, the increasing prices of medicines, the lack of COVID-19-related drugs and medical devices, and transport and logistical hindrances, and it is also focusing on a COVID-19 response with members to ensure the distribution of medicines, provide health education to workers with regard to vaccination and facilitate vaccination processes for workers. Since July 2021, the UMFCCI and its affiliated associations have been providing basic food supplies to workers' families and to low-income households in industrial zones in Yangon.
- 23.** On 26 July 2021, in a letter to the Director-General of the ILO, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population gave three months' notice of its intention to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding on the Myanmar Decent Work Country Programme (MoU-DWCP). This risks to abruptly suspend the collaborative framework that has provided an institutional and strategic setting for the delivery of development cooperation activities in the country – a portfolio that has grown to US\$34 million. By reply of 6 September, the Office expressed its deep concern and considered that the Ministry of Labour should reconsider the termination, as such a decision would have long-term implications and would have a negative impact on Myanmar's relations with the ILO's tripartite constituency. On 2 August, the Myanmar Labour Alliance, representing 16 unions and labour organizations, released a statement objecting to the cancellation of the MoU-DWCP, stating that the State Administration Council did not have international recognition and had no authority to cancel it.
- 24.** By further letter dated 24 September, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population informed of the intention of the military authorities of Myanmar to extend by one year the MoU-DWCP subject to the ILO's prior acceptance of specific conditions, including ensuring that Myanmar could attend meetings of the Governing Body and of the International Labour Conference; committing not to appoint as local staff any persons who have been dismissed in accordance with the Civil Service Personnel Law; seeking confirmation of the Ministry before issuing statements related to labour matters; and avoiding communicating with persons and organizations that have been declared terrorists and terrorist organizations. In its reply dated 30 September 2021, the Office reiterated that the question of the representation of Myanmar in ILO meetings remained unresolved by decision of the tripartite Credentials Committee of the 109th Session of the Conference and that the Office, as the Secretariat of the Organization could not derogate from that decision. The Office also indicated that the different limitations referred to in the Ministry's letter as preconditions to the possible extension of the MoU-DWCP were incompatible with the ILO's constitutional and diplomatic status as an international organization and that therefore the Office could not give favourable consideration to the Ministry's proposal.
- 25.** A complaint to the ILO's Committee on Freedom of Association concerning violations by the Myanmar military of the right to freedom of association, right to opinion and right to peaceful assembly and protest was submitted in communications from the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and from Education International, dated

5 March and 30 May, and 23 March 2021, respectively. The Ministry of Labour's reply was forwarded in communications dated 23 April and 7 May 2021. The Committee on Freedom of Association examined the complaint as an urgent and serious case at its meeting in May–June. The Committee's interim report is contained in its 395th Report, approved by the Governing Body in June 2021.⁵ It includes the following recommendations:

- (a) The Committee regrets the serious deterioration of freedom of association and other relevant human rights occurring in the country and in particular expresses its deep concern at the allegations of attacks on striking workers at Mandalay shipyard resulting in two deaths and the killing and torture of Zaw Myat Lynn. The Committee calls for a full and independent investigation into the circumstances of these deaths and requests to be kept informed of the outcome.
- (b) The Committee urges the responsible military authorities to cease immediately the use of violence against peaceful protesters and restore the protections that had been assured by the Law Protecting the Privacy and Security of the Citizens, withdraw the surveillance powers that have been restored to the wards and villages, repeal section 505A of the Penal Code and amend section 38(c) of the ETA [Electronic Transaction Act] with a view to ensuring full respect for the basic civil liberties necessary for the exercise of freedom of association, including freedom of opinion and expression, freedom of assembly, freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention and the right to a fair trial by an independent and impartial tribunal so that workers' and employers' organizations can carry out their activities and functions without threat of intimidation or harm and in a climate of complete security.
- (c) The Committee calls on the responsible authorities to reinstate any civil servants, healthcare workers or teachers dismissed or suspended for their participation in the CDM and to restore any benefits that may have been withdrawn as a consequence so that their trade union rights are restored. The Committee further expects that appropriate steps will be taken to ensure that trade unionists and workers in the private sector are not penalized for having engaged in the CDM for the restoration of their trade union rights and that steps will be taken to ensure the restoration of their employment and corresponding benefits where this may have been the case.
- (d) The Committee urges all necessary measures to be taken to ensure that no person is detained in connection with participation in a peaceful protest action for the restoration of his or her trade union rights. The Committee further urges the immediate release of all persons who would have been arrested and/or detained for their participation in a peaceful protest for the restoration of their trade union rights and to be informed of all steps taken to this end.
- (e) The Committee urges the immediate withdrawal of the declaration by the military authorities of 26 February which declared 16 trade unions as not being legal.
- (f) The Committee further requests detailed information to be provided in response to the supplementary information and new allegations submitted by the ITUC in its communication dated 30 May 2021.
- (g) The Committee draws the Governing Body's attention to the serious and urgent nature of this case.

26. On 27 August 2021, representatives of the Myanmar Labour Alliance, with support from IndustriALL and other international trade unions, announced a "campaign for comprehensive economic sanctions against Myanmar's military junta". It calls for

⁵ GB.342/INS/7, para. 358.

comprehensive sanctions and for companies, including fashion brands, to divest and cease operations in Myanmar.

▶ ILO development cooperation activities

- 27.** In view of the deteriorating security situation, all dependants of UN international staff were evacuated from Myanmar in April 2021 and, on 1 July, Myanmar was designated a non-family duty station by the UN. In mid-July, the UN country team began operating in emergency mode due to a surge in COVID-19 cases and all non-essential UN staff, including ILO staff, are currently working from home.
- 28.** As previously reported, on 24 February 2021 the ILO's regular bank account was frozen by the Central Bank of Myanmar. In May, the Central Bank lifted restrictions in relation to the payment of staff salaries. Subsequently, on 30 July, the Office was notified that other restrictions had been lifted, with the exception of cash withdrawals, which remain subject to the submission of credible reasons for the use of the funds, in other words documentation has to be provided showing that the funds are not to be used for political and conflict-related purposes and are for humanitarian assistance implemented with the permission of the central and regional governments. However, in practice, all supplier payments require the submission of detailed documentation relating to the purpose of the payment and the recipient, for approval by the Central Bank of Myanmar. This will continue to have an impact on the Office's work.
- 29.** The Office has also encountered other interference in its operations by the military authorities. On 10 June 2021, the Deputy Minister of Labour denied an application for the extension of the ILO Liaison Officer's visa and made the visa extension contingent on "whether the ILO has approved and recognized the State Administration Council as the legitimate government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar". In a letter of response, the ILO objected to this decision, referring to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947 and, in particular, Article VI, section 19, relating to the immunity of officials of the specialized agencies from immigration restrictions. On 24 June, the Director-General of the Ministry of Labour denied the visa extension a second time, noting that the matter of Myanmar's credentials was before the UN General Assembly and that the ILO had suspended its activities with the Ministry. The Office has temporarily recalled the Liaison Officer and relocated him to the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok.
- 30.** A visa extension for an international Chief Technical Adviser of a development cooperation project was also denied by the Director-General of the Ministry of Labour on 23 July 2021, with a suggestion that such an extension would be approved only following the decision of the UN General Assembly on Myanmar's credentials and a subsequent decision of the International Labour Conference. Another visa extension application for an international Chief Technical Adviser, initially approved by the Ministry of Labour and referred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 3 May, is pending approval. In addition, two tax exemption certificates for the re-export of the personal belongings of two international staff members from Myanmar to their home countries were also denied on 12 and 15 July respectively, also on the grounds that an exemption would be made only following the decision of the UN General Assembly on Myanmar's credentials and a subsequent decision of the International Labour Conference.

- 31.** ILO Yangon continues to implement 21 reprogrammed projects funded by development partners to deliver support for the social partners in accordance with the Myanmar UN country team guidance on engagement in the current context, including:
- (a) support services for women migrant workers and their family members, including information on safe migration, labour rights, migrants' rights, psychosocial support and legal assistance to survivors who have experienced violence and harassment;
 - (b) support to remittance-dependent communities in the conflict-affected areas, including occupational safety and health training to respond to the impact of COVID-19;
 - (c) work to improve or construct infrastructure in the conflict-affected areas to generate short-term job opportunities, which is expected to result in more than 12,000 work days and benefit approximately 1,950 remittance-dependent and conflict-affected households;
 - (d) support to five civil society organizations in the context of the World Day Against Child Labour and direct services in two pilot areas including with regard to formal and non-formal education for children, vocational training and life skills training for young people and livelihoods training for adults;
 - (e) delivery of online support for micro and small entrepreneurs wishing to start or improve food processing businesses;
 - (f) delivery of training to workers and civil society organizations on COVID-19; provision of personal protective equipment and hygiene products to 300 migrant workers; provision of refresher training on COVID-19 prevention in the garment sector; and delivery of OSH training to more than 600 farmers; and
 - (g) a direct assistance programme focusing on domestic workers and their families who have lost their jobs or are facing severe financial hardship.
- 32.** Several projects are conducting, or have published, a range of surveys, research studies, guidance and training programmes relating to social protection, domestic work, forced labour, child labour, labour law and occupational safety and health in line with the Myanmar UN country team guidance on engagement. The Office conducted a rapid assessment of the impact of the military takeover on employment in July 2021. It estimated that, in the first half of 2021, 14 per cent of working hours were lost, which is equivalent to the working time of at least 2.2 million full-time workers.

► Monitoring of the situation concerning the use of forced labour

- 33.** Since 1 February 2021, the ILO has received reports of the use of forced labour by the police, military and forces aligned with the military. Among other things, these reports concern:
- (a) the forced recruitment of civilians to clear barricades, transport military ammunition and undertake landmine clearances;
 - (b) the forced recruitment of civilians to conduct sentry duties in three wards in Bago with the threat of a fine for a failure to comply;
 - (c) the forced recruitment of villagers to guide the military to the enemy;

- (d) three incidents involving the use of civilians as human shields in military operations; and
 - (e) at least two incidents of forced recruitment by the military, or forces aligned to the military, and in one case, threats of fines if families did not enlist one male member of the household.
- 34.** Since the ILO database on forced labour complaints was established in February 2007, the Office has received complaints relating to a total of 5,700 cases, of which 3,059 were determined to be within the scope of forced labour. Among the 3,059 cases, 1,284 have been closed, 744 are pending with the authorities for investigation, 320 were submitted to the UN country task force on monitoring and reporting, and 287 were closed temporarily following an assessment by the ILO. Since 1 February 2021, 27 cases that were pending submission to the authorities have been closed.
- 35.** After being delisted in 2020, the Tatmadaw (military), including the integrated border guard forces, was relisted in May 2021 in the annual report of the UN Secretary-General on children and armed conflict for its recruitment and use of children.⁶ This follows the failure to end and prevent the ad hoc use of children in non-combat roles – a condition that was set out in the previous decision to delist the Tatmadaw.
- 36.** Prior to 1 February 2021, 26 cases received by the ILO were referred to the National Complaints Mechanism established by the democratically elected government in 2020 to eradicate forced labour, and two cases were closed. In April 2021, the membership and functions of the National Complaints Mechanism’s Committee were restructured after the military authorities assumed control of the administration of the State. In March 2021, the Committee for the Prevention of Military Recruitment of Underage Children was also restructured. The ILO is not a member of, or engaged in the work of, either committee.
- 37.** In 2021, the Office received eight new complaints alleging forced labour. Of these, four cases were assessed as being within the definition of forced labour, including three cases of underage recruitment and one case of forced labour. Following an assessment by the ILO, one case was submitted to the UN country task force on monitoring and reporting, 89 cases were closed and 11 cases were temporarily closed. The limited number of cases is likely to reflect the current security situation rather than a decline in the incidence of forced labour. The number of complaints received since 1 February under the National Complaints Mechanism is not known.
- 38.** The Forced Labour Project is finalizing a guide in the Burmese language for use by trainers from employers’ and workers’ organizations and civil society organizations that have completed training for trainers on forced labour. A mobile application is also under development and will be used as an educational tool for the general public and to build capacity relating to complaints of forced labour.

⁶ United Nations, *Children and armed conflict: Report of the Secretary-General*, A/75/873-S/2021/437, 2021.

▶ Draft decision

- 39.** In the light of the developments in Myanmar outlined in document GB.343/INS/8 and recalling the resolution for a return to democracy and respect for fundamental rights in Myanmar adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 109th Session (2021), the Governing Body:
- (a) expressed profound concern that no progress has been made to respect the will of the people, respect democratic institutions and processes, and restore the democratically elected government;
 - (b) expressed profound concern that the military authorities have continued with the large-scale use of lethal violence and with the harassment, ongoing intimidation, arrests and detentions of trade unionists and others, including the Rohingya, for exercising their human rights, and repeats it call on the military authorities to cease immediately such activities, and to release from detention and drop any charges against trade unionists and others who have peacefully participated in protest activities;
 - (c) expressed grave concern that the military authorities continue to interfere in the operations of ILO Yangon, including through the continued imposition of banking restrictions, the denial of visa extensions for ILO officials and the denial of tax exemptions, and urges the military authorities to desist immediately from such interference and to respect the status of the Office in keeping with the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947;
 - (d) expressed deep concern over the announced termination of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Myanmar Decent Work Country Programme and urged the military authorities to reconsider their decision, as this would have long-term implications and negatively impact Myanmar's relations with the ILO's tripartite constituency;
 - (e) repeated its call for Myanmar to uphold immediately its obligations under the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and to ensure that workers' and employers' organizations are able to exercise their rights in a climate of freedom and security, free from violence, arbitrary arrest and detention, and called for the immediate release of the General Secretary of MICS-TUF and other trade unionists and activists who have been detained;
 - (f) expressed serious concern over reports of the use of forced labour by the military and the relisting of Myanmar in the 2021 annual report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on children and armed conflict, and urged Myanmar to end immediately the use of forced labour and to uphold its obligations under the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29);
 - (g) repeated its call for the Civil Services Personnel Law, the Settlement of Labour Disputes Law, and the Labour Organization Law to be amended without delay, in line with Convention No. 87, once the country returns to democracy; and
 - (h) requested the Director-General to report to the Governing Body at its 344th Session (March 2022) on developments in Myanmar.