



Press Release

EU AND MYANMAR ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO HOLD SEMINAR ON RULE OF LAW

Bangkok, 5 February 2013 - The European Union is collaborating with the Office of the Attorney General of Myanmar to hold a seminar on 'Rule of Law in Myanmar: Perspectives and Prospects'. The seminar will take place at the Thingaha Hotel in Myanmar's capital Nay Pyi Taw on 9 February. The seminar aims to take stock of the current international debate on rule of law, to analyse the changing political and legal situation in Myanmar and to explore Myanmar's ambitions in, as well as its potential for, strengthening the rule of law.

Notable speakers include HE Dr Tun Shin (Attorney General of the Union of the Republic of Myanmar), Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (Chairperson of the Committee on the Rule of Law and Tranquillity of the Pyithu Hluttaw) and Professor Sir Jeffrey Jowell QC (Director of the Lord Bingham Centre for Rule of Law). Other speakers will include international and regional experts from the spheres of government and civil society, academia and the field.

With approximately 200 participants from Myanmar's government, legislature, legal and judicial institutions, academia and civil society, as well as representatives from the international community in Myanmar the seminar will be the largest yet held in the country on rule of law. "I am delighted that we were able to gather international and regional experts representing various aspects of rule of law in order to have an informed and inspiring debate", said Ambassador David Lipman, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar. "I hope this seminar will serve as an important input into the rule of law discussion and reform efforts in Myanmar, but also internationally."

The European Union holds the Rule of Law as one of its most cherished core values and it is committed to its advancement in the wider world. Partly in response and partly in parallel to the reforms taking place in Myanmar, the international community has moved to increase engagement with Myanmar. Rule of Law and its various component subjects, including legal and judicial reform, human rights, governance reforms et cetera, can be expected to become a prominent area of concentration. International interactions on issues of rule of law and specific human rights are bound to broaden and deepen in years to come. Further structural improvements in the rule of law in Myanmar will be vital to provide the assurance that is required for both these fields to continue to develop.

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For information about the European Union and its activities in Myanmar, please visit http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/myanmar/index_en.htm