



Yangon, 26 January 2016

**LOCAL STATEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATE EMBASSIES ACCREDITED TO
MYANMAR/BURMA**

The European Union and its member states accredited to Myanmar/Burma welcome the release of an important number of political prisoners on 22 January 2016 and the simultaneous decision to commute 77 death sentences into prison terms. These decisions constitute noteworthy further steps in the country's historic transition to democracy.

We encourage the Government to unconditionally release all remaining political prisoners, to take steps to prevent new unwarranted arrests and to work towards the complete abolition of the death penalty.

We further call on the Government to establish a system for the rehabilitation and reintegration of former political prisoners into society. The European Union and its member states stand ready to assist in this endeavour.

Note: The European Union consists of 28 member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom.