



# အမျိုးသမီးများအဖွဲ့ချုပ် (မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ) Women's League of Burma

## **WLB Statement on SPDC's continued oppression and buying time for dialogue by ignoring the will of the people of Burma and international community 26 October 2007**

Today marks one month of the SPDC's brutal crackdown on the peaceful protests led by the Buddhist monks in Burma. In this occasion, WLB wants to pay tribute to all monks and civilians, students of 88 Generation, members of the National League for Democracy and all women activists who bravely led the peaceful demonstrations. WLB will always honour them for their heroic deeds.

WLB is very heartened for the international responses condemning SPDC and imposing tougher sanctions against SPDC for their violent crackdown on the Buddhist monks, who were marching on the streets and praying for peace. Yet, we all are still witnessing the usual charades and stubbornness of SPDC ignoring the wishes of the people. They have persisted that they will follow only their own 7- step roadmap, and followed by the formation of the constitution drafting committee without consulting with persons who are naming in the committee.

Much worse, SPDC has continued the hunt-down those participated in the peaceful demonstrations. They violently beat and torture women activists detained while abusing verbally. They do not even spare such treatment to the elderly women's activists. WLB sees these acts as contradict to their words of "dialogue" and to the will of the people of Burma and international community. In these circumstances, we are very concerned about women's activists, the nuns and pregnant women who have been detained by the regime. We call SPDC to allow ICRC to meet them at once and arrange for their immediate release.

At the same time, we demand SPDC to immediately stop hunting down women activists who led the peaceful demonstration naming them criminals. We also call for the UN Secretary General, Ban-ke-mon and UN special envoys to take seriously about the urgent appeal sent by the hiding and running women activists on 23 October 2007, and to use their good offices of making SPDC stop arresting those participated in the demonstrations, and giving international protection of their safety.

Now it has been one month since crackdown, but SPDC has shown no sign of meaningful actions for political solution, while launching smearing campaigns against the heroic Buddhist monks and demonstrators. The whole world knows that these acts are undermining the people's will.

WLB strongly feels that it is time for SPDC to realise their own actions and stop playing game, such as letting UN envoys into the country and letting Daw Aung Suu Kyi out of her house to have "one hour meeting with SPDC official. It is time to the political solution. The first step must be the immediate release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

On this day marking one month of brutal crackdown, WLB strongly urges SPDC to start the process for the people of Burma to relieve their decade long suffering towards peace and democracy.

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