

Trade Union Responses in supporting Burma

UNI Asia Pacific



About UNI



- UNI is the global union for skills and services
- 15 million members world wide.
- We bring together 1000 unions from 152 countries
- To win we have to be stronger – together
- Global Agenda to put a human face on globalisation

UNI resolution on Burma



- UNI's 1000 affiliates are being urged to support the Burmese people in every possible way to force the military junta to:
 - Recognise the results of the 1990 elections, which were won by the National League for Democracy.
 - Free NLD leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who has endured more than a decade of house arrest, and all other detainees to “create the conditions for a genuine dialogue with Aung San Suu Kyi and all concerned parties and ethnic groups”.
 - Tackle the political, economic, humanitarian and human rights issues in Burma.

UNI position about Burma



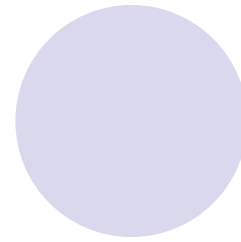
- UNI have urged the ASEAN grouping of South East Asian nations, the European Union, and the governments of India, China and Japan were urged to “take stronger steps to compel the military junta to restore democracy in Burma”.
- Four hundred and fifty companies around the world are being pressed to end their involvement in Burma until the repressive military regime there hands over power to a democratic government.
- UNI is working with the Burmese trade union movement in exile, They are going in and out of Burma in the most hazardous conditions and we are providing them material assistance.”

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)



- Founded on 1 November 2006, the ITUC represents 168 million workers in 153 countries and territories and has 305 national affiliates.

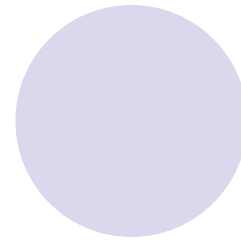
ITUC and ETUC position on Burma



- Calling for the EU to put in place:

A comprehensive ban on investing in Burma by all EU-registered companies and their subsidiaries as well as EU citizens, applying both to new investments and a requirement for divesting from existing business operations.

ITUC and ETUC position on Burma



- A ban on the import into the EU of goods and services from Burma
- A ban on international financial transfers and transactions to or from Burma by citizens, official entities or companies from the EU
- Actions to ensure that EU-originated arms are not sold to Burma via third countries
- A ban on extending export credits by EU governments to their companies in relation to any trade with or investment in Burma.

ILO



- The historic decision of ILO to invoke Article 33 of the ILO Constitution against Burma for violating the 1930 ILO charter on forced labor.
- Now, it has been nearly eight months since the ILO historic resolution was adopted.
- Since then, we have not seen any significant indication that the military regime is serious in wanting to end the practice of forced and compulsory labor.

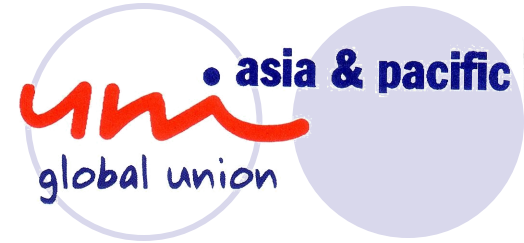
“The situation in Burma is still far from imaginable human conditions”

UNI messages



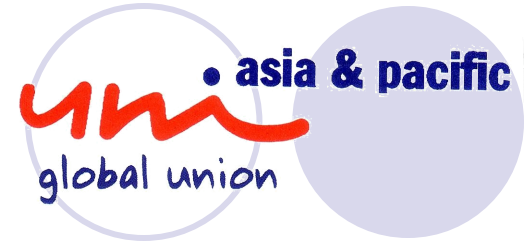
- Give An international solidarity with the Burmese people
- We are not only concern about forced labor. We insist that all workers be accorded full trade union rights as provided for in the various ILO Conventions.
- We join the Federation of Trade Unions of Burma and the international community to urge the junta to honor the results of the 1990 elections and restore democracy.
- Burma must return to full democracy.

UNI messages



- We want to remind all peace loving Burmese that we are behind them in the struggle.
- We want the military junta to know that the whole world is watching them and to remind them that their gross denial of democratic and human rights of the Burmese will not be tolerated.
- We want to remind those governments and employers/investors who have maintained link of various kinds with the military junta, that doing so will amount to the exploitation and the miseries of the Burmese for their own gains in whatever kinds

UNI commitments



We, the Global Unions are fully committed to this task and we will relentlessly support the Burmese people in their struggle.

We, the Global Unions are fully committed to this task and we will relentlessly support the Burmese people in their struggle.