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ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRINCIPLE OF PERIODIC AND
GENUINE ELECTIONSLetter dated 8 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of
Myanmar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 24 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations addressed to Your Excellency, to which was appended a letter from the "Representative-at-large of the All-Burma Federation of Student Unions addressed to the Secretary-General" (A/46/72 dated 25 January 1991).

The Permanent Representative of Panama seeks to portray the so-called ABFSU as an organization dedicated to the cause of human rights and democracy. In reality, however, it is an unlawful association whose members have joined forces with armed insurgent groups operating in the remote border regions of Myanmar. For decades, these groups have not only been waging an armed insurrection against successive lawful governments of my country, but have been committing acts of terrorism, atrocities and other heinous crimes of every description against innocent civilian populations.

The self-styled "Representative-at-large" of the said organization is an expatriate Myanmar now holding the citizenship of a foreign country who has long made common cause with insurgent groups in Myanmar and frequently pays clandestine visits to their camps.

In the light of this, the action taken by the Permanent Representative of Panama in having the letter in question circulated as an official document of the General Assembly goes far beyond an act of interference in the internal affairs of Myanmar in violation of the cardinal principles of the Charter which have been reaffirmed in innumerable United Nations declarations and resolutions. Indeed, it is tantamount to encouraging armed insurrection and terrorism, and fomenting civil disorder in my country.

In the name of the Government of the Union of Myanmar I hereby lodge a strong protest against the action of the Permanent Representative of Panama, which he has taken by misusing his prerogative as the representative of a Member State.

I should be grateful if you would be so kind as to have this letter circulated as a document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly under the item entitled "Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections".

(Signed) Kyaw MIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
