

经济及社会理事会

Distr. GENERAL

E/CN.4/1997/120 12 March 1997 CHINESE Original: ENGLISH*

人权委员会 第五十三届会议 议程项目 5

> 在所有国家实现《世界人权宣言》和《经济、社会、文化权利 国际盟约》所载经济、社会和文化权利的问题,以及研究 发展中国家在实现这些人权的努力中面临的特殊问题

1997年3月12日缅甸联盟常驻联合国日内瓦办事处代表团给人权委员会秘书处的普通照会

缅甸联盟常驻联合国日内瓦办事处和日内瓦其他国际组织代表团谨向人权委员会第五十三届会议秘书处致意,并荣幸地随信附上缅甸联盟大使/常驻代表 U Aye 给人权委员会有毒废物问题特别报告员法特玛·祖赫拉·克森提尼女士的 1997 年 2 月 19 日第 68/3-27/02(20)号信函的副本,该信是对特别报告员 1997 年 2 月 6 日 G/20 234(17-6)号信中要求给予合作以澄清其中所述指称之内容和要求提供被认为相关的任何资料或意见一事的答复。

缅甸常驻代表团谨请将上述信函作为人权委员会第五十三届议程项目 5 的文件 予以分发。

^{*} 附件不译,原文照发。

Dear Mme Special Rapporteur,

I wish to refer to your letter No. G/SO 234(17-6) of 6 February 1997 by which, in your capacity as Special Rapporteur on toxic wastes, you have brought to my Government's attention allegations in which my country is said to be concerned as a State where traffic of toxic or dangerous products and waste originate or as a State recipient of such traffic. You have attached a summary of these allegations with a request for cooperation in clarifying the substance of these allegations and in providing any information or observations deemed pertinent.

It is a well-known fact that Myanmar is neither a State where illicit traffic of toxic or dangerous products and wastes originate nor a State recipient of such traffic. In this context, therefore, a classification of the substance of the allegations is not necessary.

However, the allegations referred to in your letter seem to be related to alleged human rights violations in the context of the construction of a natural gas pipeline in Myanmar. We therefore provide you with relevant information and observations in order to enable you to understand the actual situation regarding this matter:

The natural gas fields in the Gulf of Mottamma are being developed with the participation of TOTAL of France, UNOCAL and TEXACO of the United States of America and some other foreign oil companies.

Natural gas from the Yadana Gas Field is contracted to be sold to Thailand, and at present a pipeline is being laid by TOTAL and UNOCAL to carry the gas to the Myanmar-Thai border. The route selected for this gas pipeline is the one that poses the least threat to the environment and does not pass through any village. The two foreign oil companies involved in this project are actually helping the people living along the route of the pipeline. Workers are hired by these companies and are paid more than local rates. No one has been forced to work in these projects. There are no human rights violations. The oil companies have even built schools and health clinics and initiated agricultural, prawn-breeding projects as well as shrimp, poultry, pig and goat farms in the villages along the route to provide new economic opportunities for the villagers, thus improving significantly the lives of the local populace.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar, with the active participation of the people, has been making efforts towards achieving peace and stability within the country and for the all-round development of the nation. Major restructuring of the economy was carried out within the context of a market-oriented economy. The Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy is undertaking oil and natural gas explorations and production in collaboration with international oil companies.

Moreover, the Government and the companies concerned have undertaken to provide facilities for independent media persons and concerned officials from Western countries to make extensive tours of the areas in question and these sources have not supported any of the allegations mentioned in your report.

Mme Special Rapporteur, may I observe that the allegations contained in your letter are unfounded and totally untrue. They emanate from the opponents of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, residing within and outside the country. The purpose of their action is to denigrate the Government and the Armed Forces of the Union of Myanmar. They have their own ulterior political motives.

News cuttings regarding this matter are attached herewith for your perusal. I trust that the information provided will help dispel misconceptions and false allegations that there exist human rights violations in the construction of the natural gas pipeline in Myanmar.

Signed: U Aye

Ambassador

Permanent Representative