Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Statement No. (2/2025)

1. The State Administration Council issued Order No. 16/2025 on 31 January 2025, to constitute the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) with a Chairperson and eight members.

2. The MNHRC was initially established on 5 September 2011, under Union Government Notification No. 34/2011, with the aim of promoting human rights and ensuring a comprehensive and effective transition to a democratic state. To align with the international standards for National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and to ensure a firm and sustainable Commission, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law was enacted as Law No. 21/2014 by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 28 March 2014.

3. As an institution established under the MNHRC Law, the Commission carries out its mandate and responsibilities in accordance with legal provisions. The primary functions of the Commission include promoting human rights education and awareness among the public; protecting against human rights violations; advising the government on ensuring that national laws comply with international human rights treaties; recommending the ratification of additional international human rights conventions that the State should become a party to; and engaging not only with government bodies, civil society organizations (CSOs) but also with regional and international human rights mechanisms.

4. In order to effectively implement its mandate, the Commission will develop a Framework of Action Plan and an Annual Operational Plan in line with its legal objectives. These plans will focus on enhancing public awareness of fundamental human rights principles and values; handling and monitoring complaints related to human rights violations; systematically conducting inspections of places of confinement, as well as other necessary locations; ensuring the inclusion of human rights standards in legal amendments and drafting new legislation; reviewing international human rights treaties that Myanmar has not yet ratified; and strengthening collaboration with international and regional human rights mechanisms, government institutions, and legally set up organizations including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs).

5. Any individual who experiences a violation of their fundamental rights and legal rights may submit a complaint on their own behalf, on behalf of another person, or on behalf of a group. Complaints can be submitted to the Chairperson of the MNHRC at No. (27), Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, or to MNHRC branches in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Pathein and Sittwe, by post, in person at the respective MNHRC offices, by fax: 01-654678, by email: protection@mnhrc.org.mm. The Commission will review and process complaints and cooperate with relevant government authorities to address human rights violations and provide appropriate remedies.

6. In accordance with the MNHRC Law, the Commission submits an Annual Report containing recommendations on the state of human rights in Myanmar and the Commission's activities to the President and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. If necessary, the Commission may also submit special reports on human rights issues to the President.

7. The Commission is committed to promoting and protecting human rights and urges all relevant stakeholders to actively participate in these efforts. The MNHRC will continue working towards achieving the objectives set out in the MNHRC Law to ensure an effective national human rights institution in Myanmar.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Date: 6 February 2025