



ASEAN CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT ON THE RECENT ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE IN MYANMAR

ASEAN is gravely concerned over the recent escalation of violence in Myanmar, including the bombing at Insein prison, hostilities in Karen State, and the most recent report of an air strike in Kachin State, which hit a civilian gathering, killing and injuring many people. We are deeply saddened by the growing casualties, and the immense suffering that ordinary people in Myanmar have endured.

We observe with alarm the latest intensified fighting which has not only resulted in worsening the humanitarian situation throughout Myanmar, but also goes against the spirit of ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus and undermining effort of the Special Envoy of ASEAN Chair on Myanmar to bring progress in its implementation.

We, therefore, strongly urge utmost restraint and immediate cessation of violence. We urgently call on all parties concerned, in particular one with significant power on the ground, to take concrete actions to enable a process of inclusive and constructive dialogue and to seek a peaceful solution and national reconciliation in Myanmar, and for the sake of peace, security and stability in the region.
