

Media Release



To: Australian media outlets
Re: **Support for Myanmar Democracy**
Date: Tuesday 11th May 2021 (for immediate release)

The Australia Myanmar Institute (AMI) has been actively lobbying federal and state parliamentarians to request the Australian government to offer greater assistance to the people of Myanmar and its citizens who are currently residing in Australia.

It is clear that the Australian government needs to do much more to assist Myanmar and its people in this time of urgent need. As the violence, unlawful arrests and killing continues in Myanmar, AMI has spoken to several prominent MPs from all parties to encourage the Government to take action in the following priority areas:

- Extension of visas for temporary visa holders in Australia. This has now been provided, but further clarification is required on how this process will be implemented and managed
- Setting up a special **'Myanmar Relief Fund'** into which tax-deductible donations can be made by Australians, with a financial channeling mechanism through which donations can be safely transferred to Myanmar (AMI can assist in this area)
- Urge the prioritisation of Australian Government assistance to civil society in Myanmar
- Support the acceptance of CRPH (Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw) as the legitimate parliament of Myanmar.

We call upon all Australian MPs and decision-makers to get behind this push to request the Australian federal and state governments to work proactively to build support for the people of Myanmar, in keeping with Australia's place as the leading democracy in the region.

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