

Media Release



Australia Myanmar Institute

Myanmar arrests

To: Australian media (for immediate release)

Date: Friday 26th August 2022

More than 15,000 people have been arrested since Min Aung Hlaing deposed the elected government on 1 February 2021. The latest wave of arrests includes Vicky Bowman, Director of the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business and her husband artist U Htein Lin.

Vicky Bowman was British Ambassador from 2002-06. Since leaving the Foreign Office she has lived in Myanmar and is highly respected throughout Myanmar for her work helping develop the business sector in ways which make it a strong contributor to Myanmar's economy and the strength and stability of the regional economy. As with the earlier arrest of Professor Turnell, her arrest is particularly deplorable, and senseless as Ms Bowman is held in such high regard in Myanmar and beyond. Htein Lin is an admired artist and neither of them has had any role in the resistance movement protesting the reimposition of military rule.

AMI argues strongly for the release of Vicky Bowman, Htein Lin, Sean Turnell and all political prisoners, and the return of Myanmar to the rule of law track the country has been following since 2010.

For media comment, please contact:

Christopher Lamb, AMI President (m) 0423 099 121 (e) christopher.lamb17@gmail.com

Prof Monique Skidmore, Director (m) 0458457424 (e) monique.skidmore@deakin.edu.au