**Transcript: Rector Zaw Wai Soe, President of the Myanmar Emergency Medicine Society**

Dear Colleagues

I take great honour to give this message on behalf of our Myanmar Emergency Medicine Society in this global emergency care conference. I appreciate your support, especially in this time of need for the people of Myanmar.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who supports us and who has been standing with us. It is quite obvious that global emergency medicine societies are growing, sky rocketing, whereas in Myanmar we have been battling with complex disaster, military coup and a COVID-19 third wave. We, Myanmar’s emergency medicine care providers are struggling to provide emergency healthcare to the people of Myanmar amid the global pandemic of COVID-19 crisis and the risk of being arbitrarily detained, tortured, or even killed, by the military junta since their February coup.

In response to the military violence and brutality, our people have responded by non-violence street protests and with the civil disobedience movement. We have been organising provision of medical care through civil society organisations, charities, and primary health facilities, by doctors and nurses participating in [civil disobedience movement] and challenging the military control state.

Military junta would not even let those who were maimed and wounded during peaceful protest. The junta have specifically targeted healthcare professionals and health facilities. We are having to organise treatment in secret facilities and secret places, underground clinics, and underground hospitals. They have quartered troops in hospitals, they have issued arrest warrants against healthcare professionals, expanding the list every day. [Civil disobedience movement] staff are prohibited from any form of healthcare, even for free. Private hospitals are threated with closure.

Most of us have had to go into hiding or relocate to a safe area, including me. We were displaced to the border area and liberated area.

They have detained Professor Maw Maw Oo of emergency medicine who has been helping masses of causalities at Yangon General Hospital. He has suffered very bad COVID pneumonia and bruising. We feel very sad and bad, very bad. Actually, he worked very hard when we had a first and second wave of COVID-19. In third wave, he is now suffering very bad COVID pneumonia.

260 health workers were attacked, 59 heath workers were injured, 18 health workers were killed including one of my […] students and three doctors who graduated from my university. Myanmar Healthcare Society has been taking many roles since the start of revolution. These actions are providing emergency medical care to injured people during the protests against the military junta, provision of healthcare during the COVID third wave by developing enduring healthcare programs such as telemedicine program, [coordinating] with ethnic health officers, ethnic health organisations, charity clinics and hospitals, underground clinics and hospitals. Our education and basic emergency care training to Myanmar colleagues and public preparation for emergency situations for the public by recruiting manpower, development of first responders and providing combat casualty care training. We understood that we would have to bear short-term pain for long-term gain, but one fundamental truth does not change: we care about our people, the military […] does not.

We call on the international community and our colleagues to help us and to help bring about an immediate stop to the military campaign of atrocities and intimidation directed specifically at healthcare professionals, release of all health professionals that they have detained and restoration of freedom for health professionals to care for all patients.

So please communicate with us, and please let us speak to the world what is happening in Myanmar. With the help of our colleagues so that we can prove together the sense of humanity by the global emergency team is strong enough to protect people of Myanmar from brutality of military junta.

Thank you very much for standing with us.