



Fédération internationale des ligues des droits de l'Homme

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE NON GOUVERNEMENTALE AYANT STATUT CONSULTATIF AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES, DE L'UNESCO,
DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE ET D'OBSERVATEUR AUPRES DE LA COMMISSION AFRICAINE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME ET DES PEUPLES

International Federation
for Human Rights

Federación Internacional
de los Derechos Humanos

الغدرالية الدولية لحقوق الانسان

The President

Dr. Surin Pitsuwan
Secretary General
ASEAN Secretariat
Jakarta, Indonesia

Paris, May 14th 2009

Dear Secretary General,

The International Federation for Human Rights is addressing to you in order to request your urgent intervention in Burma/Myanmar in favor of the Nobel Prize for Peace and leader of the National League for Democracy, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

FIDH has already expressed its deep concern regarding the health of Daw Suu Kyi, following information that her situation had worsened in the past few days. Ms. Suu Kyi's blood pressure was reportedly low, she was suffering from dehydration and had stopped eating. In addition, her medical doctor, the physician Tin Myo was arrested on May 7th, following his visit to Ms. Suu Kyi and is still under detention.

Unfortunately and despite the fragile state of health of the Nobel Peace Prize, FIDH was informed that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has been transferred to Insein prison in Yangon, and appeared today before a special court, in order to hear the charges against her, her two live-in party members Daw Khin Khin Win and her daughter Win Ma Ma and an American man, John William Yettaw. They are all charged under section 22 of the State Protection Act (Law Safeguarding the State from the Dangers of Subversive Elements). The charges relate to violating the rules and regulations surrounding her house arrest. If she is convicted of this offence, she will be subject up to three years of imprisonment under this article. During her appearance before the court today, Ms. Suu Kyi was not asked any questions. The judge ordered the defendants to return to court again on May 18, 2009. According to the latest information, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Daw Win Ma Ma were not sent back to their residence. They are currently detained in Insein prison.

The International Federation for Human Rights condemns in the strongest possible terms this new campaign of intimidation and harassment against the Nobel Peace Prize, ahead of the 2010 elections and just some days before her house arrest is due to expire at the end of May. This last episode deprives the "road-map to democracy" and the electoral process in Burma/Myanmar from any legitimacy.

The ASEAN has been long criticized for the absence of concrete measures to improve the human

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rights situation in Burma/Myanmar, despite the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter. The intentions of the Burma/Myanmar authorities are seriously questioned today worldwide, it is time for ASEAN and you personally to take concrete actions and engage in an open and frank dialogue with the Burmese regime and all major political and ethnic movements in order to bring at last peace and democracy to Burma/Myanmar. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has a crucial role to play in this process as a major political interlocutor. The collective responsibility of the international community and of ASEAN in particular, to protect the Nobel Peace Prize is now even more crucial than ever. FIDH is trustful that ASEAN will step up to this duty and take action to guarantee the safety, security and freedom of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

FIDH is urging you to act as soon as possible to protect her integrity. The urgency of the situation requests coordinated and strong action.

Hoping that you will take the above considerations fully into account, I remain,



Souhayr Belhassen
FIDH President

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