



Press Release

for immediate release

European Union deploys Election Observation Mission to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

YANGON 29 September - The European Union has deployed an Election Observation Mission for the general elections of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, scheduled for 8 November 2015. At the invitation of the Union Election Commission of Myanmar the mission will assess the elections against national law and international principles for elections contained in regional and international law and standards.

The European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) is led by Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, Vice President of the European Parliament from Germany.

"The EU EOM's presence shows the European Union's commitment to the conduct of inclusive, transparent and credible elections in Myanmar. We don't just focus on the election days, but on all aspects of the electoral process, including the resolution of any election related disputes after voting is finished" says Chief Observer Lambsdorff.

Nine analysts of the core team arrived in Yangon from 26 September. Thirty long-term observers are set to arrive on 7 October. Sixty-two short-term observers, a delegation with seven members from the European Parliament, and diplomats of Member States of the EU will reinforce the mission for the election day. The EU EOM comprises all 28 EU Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland.

The EU EOM will conduct a comprehensive analysis of the entire electoral process. This will include assessing the legal framework, the performance of the election administration, voter registration, candidates' nomination, campaign activities, respect for fundamental freedoms, access to and conduct of the media, voting and the counting, the announcement and acceptance of results, and after the polls.

The EU EOM is bound by a code of conduct, which requires strict neutrality and no interference in the process. The mission undertakes all its work in accordance with the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation. The EU EOM will publish its initial findings in a Preliminary Statement, which will be presented in press conferences two days after the election day. A final report will be published later, which will include recommendations for improvements for future elections.

Note to Editors:

The European Union (EU) was invited to deploy an observation mission by the Union Election Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Union Election Commission. The EU EOM is independent from any EU institutions or Member States and is committed to remain neutral and abide by the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and the Code of Conduct, as well as the laws of Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

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