I am writing to you to express my grave concern regarding six Chin farmers who were ill-treated – some tortured – by Myanmar Army soldiers and who are at risk of further human rights violations after speaking out publicly about their ordeal. All six are now in hiding. A seventh farmer who was also tortured has fled to India.

I therefore call on you and the authorities to immediately ensure that the six farmers – U Aye Hla, UMaung Sein, U Kyaw Aung, U Aung Kyaw Hla, U Kyaw Myint Oo, and U Aung So are not subjected to further torture or other ill-treatment, and that they are allowed to return to their homes in safety and without fear of reprisal.

I would ask that the authorities order a prompt, impartial and effective investigation into allegations of torture and other ill-treatment by the Myanmar Army, bring suspected perpetrators, including those with command responsibility, to justice in independent, civilian courts, in fair trials and grant reparations to the victims.

I also urge Myanmar government to ratify the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, incorporate its provisions in domestic law and implement it in policy and practice.

I would appreciate your attention and action on their matter.

Sincerely yours,