

I am writing to express my grave concern on Aung Win Hlaing, a member of the National Democratic Force party who has been sentenced to nine months in prison for a Facebook post critical of the President. He is a prisoner of conscience who must be immediately and unconditionally released. His family, who have visited him in prison, fear that the prison hospital may not be able to provide him with the adequate medical treatment he requires. Aung Win Hlaing has a pre-existing kidney condition and, since his detention, has developed a skin disease seemingly due to poor hygiene.

I believe that he should be immediately and unconditionally release Aung Win Hlaing. Authorities should ensure that, pending his release, Aung Win Hlaing is provided with adequate medical care and has access to his family and a lawyer of his choice. I also should ask the authorities to amend the 2013 Telecommunications Law, in a genuinely open and participatory process, to ensure that it complies with international human rights law and standards to not allow criminal sanctions for defamation.

Your attention on this matter would be highly appreciated .

Sincerely yours,