

I am writing to express my grave concern on Human rights lawyer Robert Sann Aung who has been receiving death threats and insulting messages since the assassination of prominent lawyer U Ko Ni on 29 January, 2017. The authorities must take immediate steps to ensure Robert Sann Aung's safety, investigate the threats and to hold those responsible to account.

I need to ask you to take immediate action to protect and ensure the safety of Robert Sann Aung, in coordination with him and subject to his wishes.

You will be also asked to immediately order an impartial, independent and effective investigation into the threats against and harassment of Robert Sann Aung and bring those responsible to justice in trials which meet international standards of fairness.

Lastly please ensure that all members of the police and other security forces are made aware of the role of human rights defenders and their responsibility to protect them, as set out in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and ensure they are able to carry out their work free from harassment, discrimination, and the threat of criminalization.

Sincerely yours,