



United Nations Security Council Arria-formula meeting on Myanmar

Date: Wednesday 29 May 2024

Time: 15:00 – 18:00 EDT

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber

Objectives:

This meeting seeks to highlight the impact of the ongoing and escalating conflict in Myanmar, on its children and youth. It is an opportunity to consider how the international community can better unite in calling for implementation of UNSCR 2669 (2022), in support of ASEAN's Five Point Consensus (5PC), and towards a better future for the people of Myanmar, including its children, youth, and future generations.

Background:

In May 2024 – over three years since the military coup – Myanmar marked yet another grim milestone. According to the UN, more than 3 million civilians are now internally displaced. Of those 3 million, an estimated one-third are children. Myanmar's children and youth are bearing the brunt of the conflict, facing disruption to their education, arbitrary imprisonment, sexual violence and abuse, and forced recruitment, including for use as human shields. The military's recent enactment of a 2010 conscription law further increases this risk.

Meanwhile the recent escalation and expansion of conflict has only deepened humanitarian need. A year since the Security Council's last Arria-formula meeting on Myanmar, another 1 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, bringing the total to 18.6 million, of which 6 million are children. Yet, despite this bleak picture, Myanmar youth continue to be active participants in peacebuilding efforts. The latest UN report on Youth, Peace, and Security (S/2024/207) recorded an increase in capacity-building initiatives designed to strengthen youth engagement in peace processes, including in Myanmar.

Guiding questions:

1. How can the international community better ensure the protection of Myanmar children, including under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict?
2. How can the international community support Myanmar youth as agents of change and participants in a peaceful, genuine, and inclusive process towards a sustainable political resolution as per UNSCR 2669?

Briefers: TBC

Participation:

UN Security Council members, ASEAN Member States, and bordering countries are invited to participate. Participants are requested to limit interventions to three (3) minutes. Subject to availability, interpretation will be provided in the UN official languages.

All UN Member States and Observer States are welcome to submit a written statement for compilation and circulation following the conclusion of the meeting.

To inscribe to the list of speakers or to submit a written statement, please email Mariea Sekijima at Mariea.Sekijima@fcdo.gov.uk no later than 17:00 Monday 27 May.