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MYANMAR/BURMA UPDATE 2013

Debating Democratisation in Myanmar/Burma

Friday 15 – Saturday 16 March 2013

Leonard Huxley Theatre, Building 56
Australian National University

DAY 1: Friday 15 March 2013

9.00am: Conference opens

Opening remarks:

Andrew MacIntyre, Dean, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Winston Set Aung, Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning & Economic Development, Myanmar

9.15 - 11.00am: Political & economic update

Political update: **Morten Pedersen**, Senior Lecturer, University of New South Wales

Economic update: **Anders Engvall**, Research Fellow, Stockholm School of Economics,

Soe Nandar Linn, Research Associate, Myanmar Development Resource Institute

Discussant: Trevor Wilson, Visiting Fellow, Department of Political & Social Change, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

11.00 - 11.30am: Morning tea break

11.30am - 1.00pm: Democratisation in the big picture

“Why were we surprised? Comparative versus case specific perspectives on Burma’s democratic experiment”, **Dan Slater**, Associate Professor, University of Chicago

“Thinking about transitional justice in Myanmar”, **Ian Holliday**, Professor, University of Hong Kong

“What does the rule of law have to do with democratisation (in Myanmar)?” **Nick Cheesman**, Lecturer, Australian National University

Chair: Paul Hutchcroft, Director, School of International, Political & Strategic Studies, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

1.00 - 2.30pm: Lunch break

1.30 - 1.45pm: Launch of ‘Exiled to Nowhere: Burma’s Rohingya’
A photo exhibit by Greg Constantine

NOTE: Lunch & the exhibit launch will be held at the atrium of the Hedley Bull Centre (Building 130)

DAY 1: Friday 15 March 2013 (continued)

2.30 - 4.00pm: From resistance to reengagement

"From exile to elections", **Daw Than Than Nu**, Secretary-General, Democratic Party (Myanmar)

"Sidelined or re-inventing themselves? Exiled activists and democratisation in Burma/Myanmar", **Kerstin Duell**, Myanmar programme manager, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Singapore

"The return of Burma's diaspora and its role in social, economic and political reform", **Cheery Zahau**, Institute of Chin Affairs

Chair: Marc Purcell, CEO, Australian Council for International Development

4.00 - 4.30pm: Afternoon tea break

4.30 - 6.15pm: Parliament, elections & the public

"Myanmar's parliament: From scorn to significance", **Tom Kean**, Editor, *Myanmar Times*

"The electoral system reform discussion in Myanmar (Burma)", **Kyle Lemargie**, Senior Programs & Research Specialist, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

"Understanding recent labour protests in Myanmar", **Kyaw Soe Lwin**, PhD candidate, City University of Hong Kong

"Farmers' networks and Myanmar's land law: New dynamics of active citizenship", **Tamas Wells**, PhD candidate, University of Melbourne

Chair: Susan Harris-Rimmer, Director of Studies, Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

6.30 - 7.30pm: Film showing

'Dreams of dutiful daughters', by Ma Khin Mar Mar Kyi

7.30 – 9.30pm: Conference dinner, at the Great Hall, University House

DAY 2: Saturday 16 March 2013

9.30 - 11.00am: Prospects & problems for the economy

“Priorities for development sequencing in Myanmar”, **Winston Set Aung**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning & Economic Development, Myanmar

“Burma’s economic reforms: Visions from the past, lessons for the future”, **Sean Turnell**, Associate Professor, Macquarie University

“The Dutch disease in Myanmar”, **Min Ye Paing Hein**, PhD candidate, University of Wisconsin

Chair: Peter Warr, Head, Arndt-Corden Department of Economics, Crawford School, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

11.00 - 11.30am: Morning tea break

11.30am - 1.00pm: Ethnic politics in transition

“Cooperation, contestation, conflict: Ethnic political interests in Myanmar”, **Nicholas Farrelly**, Research Fellow, Australian National University

“Democratisation in Myanmar and the fate of Arakan”, **U Oo Hla Saw**, General Secretary, Rakhine Nationalities Development Party

“State terrorism and international compliance: The Kachin armed struggle for political self-determination”, **Seng Maw Lahpai**, Kachin researcher

Chair: Ed Aspinall, Professor, Department of Political & Social Change, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

1.00 - 3.00pm: Lunch break

1.15 - 3.00pm: Burmese-language panel, ANU postgraduate students (Full details available on separate programme)

Sai Kham Maung, PhD submitted, Dept. of Anthropology; **Si Thura**, M.Public Health candidate, **Ma Khaing Khaing Soe**, PhD candidate, Crawford School; **Myat Khet Nyo**, M.Public Policy & Diplomacy candidate; **Chit Win**, PhD candidate, Dept. of Political & Social Change; **Khin Maung Yin**, M.Public Policy candidate, Crawford School; **Thein Than Htay**, M.Public Health candidate

Chair: Ma Khin Mar Mar Kyi, Burmese studies convenor, Asian Studies Department, School of Culture, History & Language, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

DAY 2: Saturday 16 March 2013 (continued)

3.00 - 4.30pm: The role of security forces

"The soldier and the state: The Tatmadaw and political liberalization in Myanmar",

Maung Aung Myoe, Associate Dean, International University of Japan

"'Praetorianism' in post-junta Myanmar: Revisiting the political intervention of Burmese armed forces in the 2010s", **Renaud Egret**, Research Assistant Professor, University of Hong Kong

"Obstacles to police reform in Burma", **Andrew Selth**, Research Fellow, Griffith University

Chair: Monique Skidmore, Pro Vice Chancellor (International), University of Canberra

4.30 - 4.45pm: Conference closes