

DridhG Security International Private Limited

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Situational Report on Diplomatic Efforts to Deal with Myanmar's Conflict

Prepared for:

Business Enablers School Principals and Administration

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CIN: U80200DL2023PTC414966 | GST Number: 07AAKCD0603M1ZP





Date: July 13, 2023 | Event: ASEAN's Foreign Minister's Meeting is underway at Jakarta.

Attendees include:

- Laos' Foreign Minister Saleumxay Kommasith
- Malaysian Foreign Minister Zambry Abdul Kadir
- Thailand's Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai
- Vietnam's acting SOM Leader Vu Ho
- Singaporean Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan
- Philippines' Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo
- Brunei's SOM Leader Johariah Wahab
- India's Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
- Cambodia's Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn
- Indonesia's Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi
- East Timor's Foreign Minister Bendito Freitas and
- ASEAN Secretary-General Kao Kim Hourn



Background:

On February 1, 2021 the civilian government led by the NLD was overthrown in a military coup d'état, and the Tatmadaw's commander-in-chief, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, became the head of state.

The conflict between the ruling Myanmar military junta officials and pro-democracy movement has led to humanitarian concerns, environmental degradation and has affected Myanmar's economic standing. Junta's lack of attention to urban infrastructure and its targeting of rural villages has also led to an increasing crisis involving refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). The return to military rule has caused a worsening trend.

Situational report:

In June 2023, Thailand had invited Myanmar's military officials with the aim to re-engage with them as Thailand was suffering due to trade issues, refugee crisis and border problems. Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam too engaged with them in 2022. On the other hand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Philippines refused to so engage with the Junta officials. Myanmar's shadow National Unity Government, discourages ASEAN from engaging with the junta unless it releases all political prisoners.

Indonesia is trying to bring all the ASEAN parties on the same page with the aim to put forward efforts of peace and diplomacy back on the table to de-escalate the situation. However, it is struggling to make a headaway. This is evident from the fact that Foreign Ministers of ASEAN countries who have gathered in Indonesia were expected to issue a joint communique on 12 July, but the same has not been issued till 13 July. As per an ASEAN official, the communique has been finalized and will be released soon. It is noteworthy that no Myanmar representative was present in this week's meeting and the Junta officials are still barred due to lack of any progress on the proposed five peace point plan which was proposed by the ASEAN nations.



Analysis:

Over the past few years, alliances of several countries have failed to resolve conflicts between nations as well as unrest within some nations. Continuation of unrest in Myanmar, Taliban control over Afghanistan and the ongoing conflict between Russia-Ukraine is case in point. There appears to be no progress in ending Myanmar's civil strife.

Earlier when the implementation of a peace plan, proposed by a 10 nation block of the Association of South East Asian (ASEAN) countries, was refused by Myanmar's military, Junta officials were barred from summit meetings. Recent developments indicate that ASEAN member countries stand divided as far as the Myanmar situation is concerned.

Sources:

https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/asean-struggles-unity-myanmar-conflict-2023-07-13/https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/no-progress-in-ending-myanmars-deadly-civil-strife-asean-leader/article66838323.ece

https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20230712_43/



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 - Predictive Risk Analysis
 - Situational Reports
- 2. Post conducting a site survey, we prepare Risk Reports

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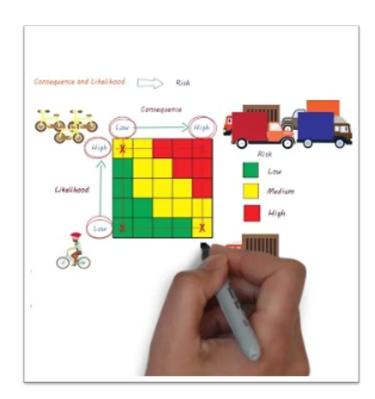
Assessment

Level 3: Security Risk Assessment

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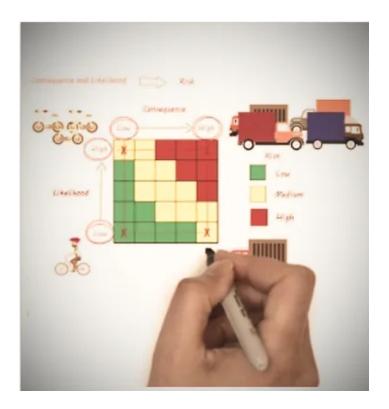
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