Justice For Myanmar’s response to UK firm Portia Management Services’ decision to cut ties with the Myanmar military

July 24, 2020, Myanmar: Justice For Myanmar welcomes the announcement that Portia Management Services will end their relationship with Myanmar military conglomerate MEHL. Portia was contracted by crony-run KT Group to manage Bo Aung Kyaw Terminal (renamed TMT), a state asset that was privatised to MEHL in a corrupt business deal involving Myanmar Port Authority. Myanmar Port Authority was headed by an MEHL director at the time, a criminal conflict of interest. MEHL then leased the port to KT Group for USD$3 million in annual rent payments, revenue that is distributed to top generals and military units, supporting ongoing war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The sale of Bo Aung Kyaw Terminal to the military cartel is yet another example of the military’s criminal conduct, that has continued unchecked under the NLD-led government. Justice For Myanmar calls for a full investigation of MEHL’s hold over Myanmar Port Authority and Customs. While Myanmar Port Authority and Customs Department heads resigned from the MEHL board last Friday, due to the Attorney General's finding of an unlawful conflict of interest, they remain in their public posts and have not been criminally charged, which is unacceptable. Justice For Myanmar calls for all businesses to cut ties with the Myanmar military. The military cartel must be dismantled and the military must be brought under civilian control.

Note to editors

Justice For Myanmar is a group of covert activists campaigning for justice and accountability for the people of Myanmar. We are calling for an end to military business and for federal democracy and a sustainable peace.

For more on the Portia decision, see Burma Campaign UK’s statement: http://ow.ly/hExi50AGYEO

For more on the conflict of interest involving Myanmar Port Authority and Customs, see Justice For Myanmar's latest press release: http://ow.ly/ATrN50AGYEP

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