



12th Feb, 2021

H.E. Mr. Thurain Thant Zin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Satoko Fujitani, President,
Yumiko Ozaki, General Secretary,
YWCA of Japan

Statement of Protest against military coup in Myanmar

We, the YWCA of Japan, as an organization striving for a just and peaceful world together with our sisters around the world, and as a part of the global YWCA movement that works in more than 100 countries and regions including our sister YWCAs in Asia, are deeply concerned about the military coup that took place in Myanmar on 1st February and the subsequent situation, and hereby express our protest.

The military coup is a seizure of power against the will of the people clearly expressed through democratic elections, and is a serious violation of human rights of the people of Myanmar. There have also been reports of restrictions on communications and media, and police violence against citizens protesting in the streets.

Peace cannot be created by force. The YWCA of Japan protests the actions of the Myanmar military and urges them to protect the lives and human rights of the people of Myanmar. We strongly request that those who are illegally detained be immediately released, the outcomes of the election be respected, democratic social systems be promptly restored, and that the "state of emergency" that violates the human rights and daily lives of citizens be lifted without delay.