

To Their Excellencies the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the member states of the European Union,  
To the High Representative for Common Foreign Policy of the European Union,  
To the European Commissioner for External Relations,

The Hague, May 19, 2008

Dear Sir,

Allarming reports of the humanitarian crisis in Birma have reached all of us, yet the Birmean authorities have until the present day denied much, if not all, of the aid, that other nations have offered.

It has now been more than two weeks, since the cyclone Nargis made landfall in Birma on May 2, 2008, causing catastrophic destruction and at least 80,000 fatalities with a further 56,000 people still missing. Though the Birmean government has asked for United Nations assistance, it has made the reservation that it wants government-to-government aid and has admitted only very little aid until now.

We strongly feel that it in the current situation it is not in the interest of the citizens of Birma and all those suffering of this humanitarian crisis, that Birmean authorities make demands as to the way in which the foreign aid is offered. We feel that offering humanitarian aid to the suffering people of Birma should prevail over considerations of national sovereignty.

We therefore call upon you as Minister of Foreign Affairs to:

- Press the Birmean government to allow any foreign aid offered and be prepared to offer the documents necessary to allow foreign aid workers to enter the country;
- To take action within the European Union and United Nations to come to concerted actions regarding the above mentioned pressure on the Birmean government;
- To use all possible means to offer humanitarian aid to the Birmean people and to put this goal before the Birmean sovereignty if necessary.

We trust that you will take appropriate actions concerning Birma and sincerely hope that the needs of the people of Birma will soon be alleviated.

Sincerely,

Harry van der Molen, chairman of the Christian Democratic Youth Appeal

Rogier Havelaar, chairman of PerspectivE Christian Union Youth

Jan Kloosterman, chairman of Youngsters of the Reformed Political Party or SGP