

An open letter

23 June 2016

Subject: Recommendations for solving the issue of Myanmar's Rohingya refugees

Attention: The State Counsellor and Foreign Minister of Myanmar, Her Excellency Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

On the occasion of your visit to Thailand during 23-25 June 2016, we, the Coalition for the Rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons (CRSP), composed of academic institutions and civil society organizations in Thailand, dedicated to providing support to refugees and stateless people, and researching the issue of migration into Thailand, particularly the Rohingya from Myanmar and Bangladesh would like to make the following recommendations to Her Excellency as the State Counsellor and Foreign Minister of Myanmar;

- 1. Revise the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law to address statelessness of the Rohingya ethnic population and to reinstate nationality to Rohingya who used to be bestowed with the Myanmar nationality prior to the enforcement of the Law.
- 2. Allow international organizations access to provide humanitarian assistance in the control areas for the Rohingya in Rakhine State who have been deprived of human rights and access to basic services
- 3. Stop discriminating against the ethnic minorities in Myanmar and consider acceding to international human rights treaties including the 1969 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and other related treaties to the recognition of the rights of the stateless persons and to reduce the number of stateless persons in the country.
- 4. Collaborate with concerned countries and international organizations to form a taskforce and to implement the Bali Process to address issues concerning refugees and the victims of trafficking in persons from Myanmar, including Rohingya, and to ensure their access to justice.
- 5. Collaborate with concerned countries and civil society organizations to form a working group to prepare for nationality verification to deal with the imminent return of refugees and migrants from Thailand.

Coalition for the Rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons (CRSP)

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The Coalition for the Rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons (CRSP) is a joint effort of civil society organizations particularly local NGOs, academics, and lawyers with the objective of protection and promotion of the rights for urban refugees and stateless persons. The coalition activities focus on advocacy aimed at policy changes, protection mechanisms for refugees, and public awareness, and increased public participation in the effort to protect the rights of refugees and stateless persons in Thailand. The coalition's focus areas are: The right to be recognized as a legal person, The right to be free from indefinite detention, The right to non-refoulement, The right to access to judiciary and fair trial, The right of survivors/victims of trafficking, The right to education, The right to freedom of movement, The right to highest attainable standard of health and The right to work