

March 23, 2021

Michael Wirth  
CEO, Chevron Corporation  
6001 Bollinger Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583, USA

Dear Mr. Wirth,

**Re: Unocal Operations in Myanmar**

We write in regards to Chevron's business in Myanmar through its wholly-owned subsidiary (Unocal Myanmar Offshore Co. Limited - Unocal) and the recent coup d'état by the Myanmar military.

The people of Myanmar strongly oppose the military coup. This is evidenced by nationwide protests including people from all different backgrounds, ethnicities and professions as well as tens of thousands of public servants participating in the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) against the Myanmar military coup. The CDM is intended to disrupt the military regime's ability to control the country, including limiting its ability to collect revenue.

The international community has also condemned the coup and human rights abuses by the military: the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council convened a Special Session on Myanmar; the UN Security Council has expressed "deep concern"; Canada, the United Kingdom (UK), and the United States of America (US) issued targeted sanctions against military leaders; and the European Union (EU) has condemned the military coup "in the strongest terms." The Myanmar ambassador to the UN, U Kyaw Moe Tun, has also called on the international community to not recognize the junta and to take the strongest possible actions against the military, a call echoed by the UN's Special Envoy on Myanmar who has asked "How much more can we allow the Myanmar military to get away with?"; South Korea has suspended defense exchanges and the Australian government has suspended military cooperation; New Zealand has suspended all diplomatic relations with Myanmar; Myanmar has been suspended from the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative; and both the World Bank and Asian Development Bank have suspended sovereign lending to Myanmar.

***Based on this context, we, the undersigned organizations and concerned individuals, call on Chevron and its partners to use their ownership stakes in joint ventures with the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) to ensure that payments of royalties and other revenues are not made to MOGE. Instead, companies should make revenue payments into protected accounts until such time as the legitimate and democratically elected government is returned.***

According to revenue figures from FY2019-2020, oil and gas revenues provided Myanmar with USD 1.5 billion in annual income, with around 80% of that income derived from the offshore gas sector. MOGE, the Myanmar state-owned oil and gas company, collects much of that income through its joint ventures

and revenue sharing agreements with international corporations, including Chevron. Even though MOGE has long been one of the most opaque economic actors in Myanmar, all offshore and onshore gas and oil contracts include a production or profit-sharing arrangement with MOGE.

Chevron's most significant stake in Myanmar's oil and gas sector is through the Yadana offshore gas project located off the southwest coast of Myanmar. Total, Chevron, MOGE, and Thai-owned PTT Exploration and Production Public Company Limited (PTTEP) jointly own the project, which is a huge source of revenue for the Myanmar government--[according to the 2016/17 MEITI report](#), the Yadana project accounted for 42% of total oil and gas production from offshore projects. [According to Reuters](#), Chevron's participating interest in the Yadana project likely generated nearly \$600 million in payments to MOGE between 2015-2019.

Chevron and its partners must use their ownership stakes in joint ventures with MOGE to ensure that these payments of royalties and other revenues are not made to MOGE. These revenues are at high risk of being misappropriated and used to fund the operations of the Myanmar military as well as the illegitimate military regime, and could be used to support military operations and interests, including the generals and military units responsible for the coup and recent atrocities against the Rohingya, other ethnic groups, and against those participating in the CDM. Neither the U.S. nor any other government - nor the U.N. - has formally recognized the military regime as the Government of Myanmar, thus any money paid over to the regime may be assisting in the theft of Myanmar's public assets.

Thus far, Chevron has responded to the coup in a [letter on 12 February](#) and a [joint statement on 18 February](#), saying that it adheres to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and that it will work to "promote responsible investment and locally support business practices" in Myanmar. We note, however, that Chevron's main local business partner is MOGE, a government entity run by an appointee nominated by the previous military-led government [that has a history](#) of being used during military rule to misappropriate potentially billions of dollars of funds. In the present context, if no action is taken, Chevron and its joint venture partners will be paying hundreds of millions of dollars into accounts that are now controlled by that same military, a military whose leadership is on trial in international courts for committing genocide and that has now killed over 250 protestors. This would run counter to the UN Guiding Principles, which require Chevron to seek to prevent adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their business relationships.

We therefore support [calls from Myanmar civil society](#) and the [Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw](#) not to legitimize the junta and for Chevron and other companies in the oil & gas sector to ensure that money from the oil and gas industry does not go to the MOGE or the military. Chevron and its partners must use their position in joint ventures with MOGE to suspend all payments to the Myanmar government and make revenue payments into protected accounts until a legitimate, democratically elected government is in place. We encourage you to publicly support a return to democracy and civilian-led government and an end to military involvement in Myanmar's civilian politics and to recognize what has happened as a coup, rather than referring to it as "the current situation" as articulated in your 12 February statement. We request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss these matters.

Yours sincerely,

**Organizations:**

Academics Stand Against Poverty  
All Arakan Students' and Youths' Congress (AASYC)  
Amazon Watch  
Another Development  
Arakan Rivers Network (ARN)  
Australia Karen Organisation  
Australian Centre for International Justice  
Australian Council for International Development  
Back Pace Health Worker Team  
Beautiful Trouble  
Burma Campaign UK  
Burma Medical Association  
Burmese Rohingya Association in Japan  
Calgary Karen Community Association (CKCA)  
California Karen Youth Forum  
California Shan Social & Cultural Society, USA  
Campaign for a New Myanmar  
Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights  
Change the Chamber  
Civil Liberties Defense Center  
Civil society groups in Myanmar  
Coalition for Integrity  
CODEPINK for Peace  
Collectif HAMEB France  
Corporate Accountability Lab  
DEEKU-Karenni Community of Amarillo  
EarthRights International  
Edmonton Karen Community Youth Organization

EnergyTransparency Association, Ukraine  
European Karen Network  
FracTracker Alliance  
Free Burma Campaign (South Africa)  
Friends of the Earth Australia  
Fund Our Future  
Global Witness  
Heartland Initiative, Inc.  
Human Rights Foundation of Monland (HURFOM)  
Info-Birmanie (France)  
Institute for Asian Democracy  
Inter Pares  
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility  
International Accountability Project  
International Campaign for the Rohingya  
International Karen Organization  
Kansas Karenni community  
Karen Affairs Committee  
Karen Community of Canada (KCC)  
Karen Community of Czech Republic  
Karen Community of Finland  
Karen Community of Hamilton  
Karen Community of Ireland  
Karen Community of Israel  
Karen Community of Kitchener & Waterloo  
Karen Community of Leamington  
Karen Community of Lethbridge  
Karen Community of London  
Karen Community of Ottawa  
Karen Community of Regina  
Karen Community of Saskatoon

Karen Community of Thunderbay  
Karen Community of Toronto  
Karen Community of Windsor  
Karen Community of Winnipeg  
Karen Community Society of British Columbia (KCSBC)  
Karen Environmental and Social Action  
Karen Human Rights Group  
Karen Organization for Relief and Development  
Karen Organization of America  
Karen Organization of America  
Karen Peace Support Network  
Karen River Watch  
Karen Student Association, Omaha, NE  
Karen Student Network Group  
Karen Swedish Community  
Karen Teacher Working Group  
Karen Thai Group  
Karen Women Organization  
Karen Youth Network  
Karen Youth of Norway  
Karen Youth of Toronto  
Karen Youth Organization  
Karenni Community of Arizona  
Karenni Community of Arkansas  
Karenni Community of Austin  
Karenni Community of Bowling Green (KY)  
Karenni Community of Buffalo (NY)  
Karenni Community of Chicago  
Karenni Community of Colorado  
Karenni Community of Dallas  
Karenni Community of Des Moines

Karenni Community of Florida  
Karenni Community of Fort Worth  
Karenni Community of Georgia  
Karenni Community of Houston  
Karenni Community of Idaho  
Karenni Community of Indianapolis  
Karenni Community of Massachusetts  
Karenni Community of Michigan  
Karenni Community of Minnesota  
Karenni Community of Missouri  
Karenni Community of North Carolina  
Karenni Community of Portland  
Karenni Community of Portland  
Karenni Community of Rockford  
Karenni Community of Rockford  
Karenni Community of San Antonio  
Karenni Community of Sioux Falls, SD  
Karenni Community of Utah  
Karenni Community of Utica, NY  
Karenni Community of Washington  
Karenni Community of Wisconsin  
Karenni Refugees Committed (KnRC)  
Karenni Society of Omaha (NE)  
Karenni-American Association  
Korea Karen Organization  
Korea Karen Youth Organization  
Market Forces  
Maryknoll Sisters  
Maven Women  
Media Alliance  
Mekong Watch

Mineral Inheritors Rights Association  
Missionary Oblates  
Mosquito Fleet  
Never Again Coalition  
New Rules for Global Finance  
No Business with Genocide  
Open Net Association (Korea)  
Oversea Karen Organization Japan  
Portland Rising Tide  
Progressive Voice  
Project Blueprint  
Project Maje  
Publish What You Pay Australia  
Publish What You Pay International  
Publish What You Pay Uganda  
Publish What You Pay United States  
Recourse  
Shadow World Investigations (SWI)  
SumOfUs  
Swedish Burma Committee  
The Future We Need  
The PLAN: Public Legal Aid Network  
Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and  
Tasmania  
Wacam

**Individuals:**

Shaaзка Beyerle, Author, Curtailing Corruption: People Power for Accountability and Justice

Elaine Chan, Pax Christi Metro New York

Patricia Constantino, Pax Christi Metro New York

M. Doretta Cornell, Sisters of the Divine Compassion

Jean Fallon, Member, Maryknoll Sisters

Mary Geraghty, Pax Christi

Patrick Henry

Michael Hogan, Orangetown Democratic Committee

Michael Jarvis

Mary Johnson, Pax Christi & Wespac

Kathleen Kanet, Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary

Patricia Krasnausky, Pax Christi

Michael Moran, St. Francis Xavier TC Church, NYC

Mary Mullady, Pax Christi

Thomas Pogge, Yale University

Hedy Rudne

Nate Sibley, Hudson Institute's Kleptocracy Initiative

Alberto Turlon

Jodi Vittori

Pichamon Yeophantong, University of New South Wales (Canberra)