



One Hundred and Fourteenth Congress
Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission

April 21, 2015

The Honorable Charles Santiago
Member of Parliament, Malaysia
Chairman, ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dear Chairman Santiago,

As Co-Chairs of Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission of the United States Congress, we are writing to congratulate you on the release of your report, "The Rohingya Crisis and the Risk of Atrocities in Myanmar". We share your concerns with the situation in Burma (Myanmar) and appreciate the initiative of ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights to shed light on these disturbing developments and call for action to address them. We are eager to review the report and bring it to the attention of the U.S. Congress and the American people by sharing it with our colleagues and formally entering it into the Congressional Record.

The Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission shares your vision of standing up for abuses of human rights wherever they may occur. We have held hearings and briefings in the U.S. Congress and have worked closely with civil society organizations to bring further attention to the particularly egregious abuses against minorities by the Government of Burma. Last year, we introduced and passed a Congressional Resolution, H.Res.418 "Urging the Government of Burma to end the persecution of the Rohingya people and respect internationally recognized human rights for all ethnic and religious minority groups within Burma."

We appreciate your leadership on this important issue and your commitment to advancing human rights within ASEAN. We would be pleased to work with you and other elected officials who are committed to the advancement of human rights to address the escalating human rights crisis facing the Rohingya in Burma.

Sincerely,



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress
Co-Chair TLHRC



Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress
Co-Chair TLHRC