

## To Whom It May Concern

I am writing to you with regards to the Justice for Myanmar (JFM) list of companies with alleged military connections. Myanma Awba Industries Company Limited – a private business owned by Thadoe Hein in minority and majority shareholder as Myanmar Awba Group Company Limited (“MAG”), whose shareholders are given hereunder – is listed as a ‘Significant Business Associate’ of the military on the grounds that it is ‘operating in Ngwe Pinlae Industrial Zone, owned by MEHL’ (sic).

Shareholders of Myanma Awba Group Company Limited are:

1. Thadoe Hein
2. Soe Mar Lar
3. Soe Min Thant

It is correct that one of our fertilizer factory/ warehouses is currently located at Ngwe Pin Lae Industrial Zone. However, this factory is not leasing land from MEHL, but from me being grantee of the land, granted from Department of Urban Housing Development (the actual owner of the land). Furthermore, we are currently in the process of moving to an alternative industrial zone which better suits our needs. Our planned new location is, I can assure you, not associated with MEHL or other military entities.

Although we understand that the 2019 UN Fact Finding Mission report wrongly claimed that MEHL owns Ngwe Pin Lae Industrial Zone, MEHL was in fact the developer rather than the owner of the zone and the land on which it sits. It is now its administrator. This means that MEHL are responsible for maintenance, waste management and security.

Our factory, as a tenant of the Zone, pays an annual fee of USD 460 – less than \$40 a month – for these services. This is a small sum, and possibly less than the cost of the services provided by MEHL. This service fee is the only, and insignificant, link between our company and MEHL.

I would like to emphasize, that the Awba Group and I, personally, have never had any other connections with any military personnel, regime, or businesses in or outside of Myanmar. We are committed to operating sustainably and transparently. We focus on promoting the all-important agricultural sector in Myanmar, via investments in crop-protection plant and micro-finance business, in support of financial inclusion and smallholder farmers. Further details of Awba are available at [www.awba-group.com](http://www.awba-group.com), and of Maha Agriculture Microfinance at [www.mahamfi.com](http://www.mahamfi.com).

I would therefore be grateful if you would remove Myanma Awba Industries from your list of the military’s ‘Significant Business Associates’.

Yours sincerely,



**Thadoe Hein**  
**Group Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**  
**Dated: February 13, 2021**

**Myanma Awba Industries Co., Ltd.**

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