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## Press Release

for immediate release

### **EU Election Observation Mission deploys 62 short-term observers – over 150 EU observers in total to observe on Election Day**

**YANGON 5 November** – The European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar deployed today 62 short-term observers throughout the country. The group is the third contingent, following the core team and the 30 long-term observers, which have arrived in Myanmar from 26 September.

“The short-term observers will cover all states, regions and territories in both, urban and rural areas. Together with the other EU EOM observers they will be the eyes and the ears of the mission on election day during polling, counting and tabulation of results”, said Chief Observer Alexander Graf Lambsdorff.

Prior to their deployment the short-term observers received a two-day in depth briefing in Yangon on the electoral background, voting procedures, the political environment and other topics.

The short-term observers will observe together with a Delegation of the European Parliament and EU diplomats. In total the EU EOM deploys on election day over 150 Observers from all 28 member states as well as Norway, Switzerland and Canada.

The EU EOM is led by Chief Observer Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, Vice President of the European Parliament from Germany.

“Although the EU EOM observers will be visiting many polling stations from the opening to the closing of the polls, they will not interfere in the process. They are there to watch and take note of how the voting is conducted,” said Lambsdorff.

“The EU EOM’s analysis includes aspects such as the legal framework, the work of the election administration, the campaign activities of the candidates and political parties, the conduct of the media, the voting, counting and the tabulation of results, the resolution of election related disputes,” elaborated the Chief Observer further.

The EU EOM will issue a preliminary statement two days after the elections. A final report - with technical recommendations for future elections - will be published later.

#### **Note to Editors:**

*The European Union (EU) was invited to deploy an observation mission by the Union Election Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Union Election Commission. The EU EOM is independent from any EU institutions or Member States or government institution and is committed to remain neutral and abide by the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and the Code of Conduct, as well as the laws of Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

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