

Dear fellow citizens in Myanmar,

COVID-19 means a crisis of unprecedented proportions for all of us. Its consequences for the world and for Myanmar are not yet foreseeable. We are all unsettled, wondering how we will fare in health terms, what the economic consequences will be and how the crisis will affect our political, economic and social systems in the long term.

But every day we are learning to deal with the crisis better. And we are adapting to the new situation. I am encouraged by the many signs of solidarity and support that the world is experiencing in these difficult times and by the admirable commitment of all those on the frontline of the fight against the crisis such as care workers and the ones working to keep essential services up.

In recent weeks you have received regular communications from the Swiss Embassy in Bangkok. As you know, the representation in Bangkok is responsible for consular matters and thus also for our fellow citizens in Myanmar. In consultation with the representation in Yangon, the Embassy in Bangkok will keep you informed about developments concerning COVID-19 as well as consular support to Swiss citizens.

The Embassy in Yangon works closely with the representation in Bangkok on these issues. Together, we have looked after Swiss nationals wishing to leave the country and have organized their departure from Myanmar. With the completion of the repatriation flight on 1 April 2020, the Embassy in Yangon is once again devoting more time to its traditional tasks. These include supporting our host country Myanmar in its fight against COVID-19 and its medium and long-term consequences.

Please be assured that the Embassy in Yangon will remain fully functional and operational. This also includes being there for our fellow citizens in Myanmar, especially in these challenging times. As usual, the Embassy will be happy to answer your questions, while at the same time respecting restrictions imposed that affect our daily functioning. You can reach us under yangon@eda.admin.ch / +95 9 45424 6403 (emergency only). These connections are valid during Thingyan and outside office hours.

The Embassy asks you to strictly follow the orders of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, issued in dealing with COVID-19. In this sense, I invite you to stay at home during Thingyan (April 10-19).

On behalf of the staff of the Embassy in Yangon, I offer you my best wishes for your personal wellbeing and wish you and your families peaceful Easter days and a serene Thingyan. I am looking forward to continue the personal exchange with you as soon as the situation allows.

Sincerely Yours,

Tim Enderlin
Ambassador