2020 Pwint Thit Sa report

MCRB and Yeey (which contributed 300 days pro bono to the report) launched the 2020 Pwint Thit Sa Report on Transparency in Myanmar Enterprises (TiME) on 21 December. The report assessed 260 companies and for the first time included all banks to reflect the higher standard of corporate governance required of banks in Myanmar.

Companies continue to improve their overall disclosure, with a 12% increase in companies who have a website, in comparison to 2019. Congratulations to uab for topping the charts, City Mart Holdings Group (CMHL) at 2nd place, and Shwe Taung Group at 3rd! The report also summarises recent developments on transparency, corporate governance and business and human rights including the consequences of the UN Fact Finding mission report and developments in combatting corruption. A Myanmar translation follows later this month.
Register for 12 January webinar on disability and B2C Assistive Technologies

This webinar on 12 January, 2-4pm will discuss the role of assistive technology for businesses to promoting accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities.

Keynote speaker is Dr Christopher Lee, Managing Director at the International Association of Accessibility Professionals (IAAP). Verbit (who will provide live captioning), Skillset and Acoustic Protocol will present technologies. The situation in Myanmar will be discussed by Myanmar Access Technology, Myanmar Independent Living Initiative (MILI) and Myanmar Deaf Community Association (MDCA). The webinar is co-organised with disability NGO Access Israel, the Embassy of Israel, Myanmar Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MICCI).

A previous webinar on 24 November covered the business case for employing persons with disabilities. Myint Naing Kyaw also presented on How to Foster a Safe and Happy Workplace for Persons with Disabilities in a webinar hosted by the Business Coalition for Gender Equality to celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December.

Register for the 12 January webinar

Gathering business inputs into National Land Law Reform

On 17 December MCRB, UNDP and UMFCCI brought together around 140 participants (including businesses, lawyers, and some NGOs) to discuss the challenges Myanmar’s land laws pose to responsible business practices. The points will be summarized and fed into the ongoing National Land Law reform process.

Read more
Discussing Business & Human Rights with the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

On 15 December, Business and Human Rights was the topic in the first of a series of workshops with the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission organised by UNDP. MCRB Director Vicky Bowman highlighted some case studies in Myanmar to illustrate the Protect, Respect and Remedy framework.

Virtual roundtable with civil society organisations

On 26 November, MCRB caught up with civil society leaders with whom we have previously engaged in Rakhine, Shan, Kayah, Tanintharyi,Sagaing, and Mandalay Region for a virtual roundtable to discuss recent developments in the extractives sector, EIA and environmental advocacy, and disability inclusion. It was an opportunity to share experience and build networks across the country.

To join future CSO discussions, please contact Khin Moet Moet Myint

Human rights and digital ID

As part of our advocacy on data protection and the right to privacy, MCRB has been engaging on issues related to digital ID and tracking apps in Myanmar, particularly where this relates to business, as well as joining the debates at international level. We signed up to the 17 December statement by 11 international NGOs on the need to better integrate human rights into these technologies.

MCRB’s Svetlana Zens will speak on Data Management & Privacy at the Myjobs.com.mm Virtual Career Fair on February 6/7th.

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