



Statement by the 74 Media

19th July 2024

The 74 Media issues this statement to address recent developments concerning the case study authored by Thu Thu Aung (Reuters), titled "Dying to Tell a Story: The Role of Citizen Journalists in Myanmar," which has been publicly disseminated via social media channels and the website of the Reuters Institute.

It has come to our attention that the information cited in the aforementioned case study originates from a journalist who was terminated from The 74 Media more than a year ago. Events referenced in the report occurred between two years ago.

As The 74 Media, we express deep sadness and acknowledge the distressing circumstances experienced by one of our former employees during her tenure. We extend sympathy and respect for the disclosure of these incidents to the paper of Thu Thu Aung (Reuters) and Reuters Institute.

We have undertaken a thorough review of the assertions made in the case study and have identified certain inaccuracies. In light of these inaccuracies, we have initiated formal communication with Thu Thu Aung (Reuters) and the Reuters Institute via email to seek specific clarifications and substantiation.

Since its establishment, The 74 Media has endeavored to comply with international standards. However, we acknowledge that we have had some weaknesses while working amidst challenges and crises. Particularly since the coup in Myanmar, The 74 Media has faced significant operational challenges both domestically and internationally while diligently fulfilling our journalistic duties. During this turbulent period, the organization has encountered difficulties in maintaining office infrastructure and has acknowledged deficiencies in personnel management and operational oversight.

Over the period, The 74 Media has undergone substantial organizational restructuring under new leadership and governance board members. Furthermore, our leadership and management practices have evolved in response to changing circumstances and context of both Myanmar and

Thailand. Some of the leaders from our organization in 2022 and 2023 have pursued further careers and are no longer with our organization.

We would like to reassure our partners, readers, and relevant stakeholders that The 74 Media upholds the principles of human rights, labor rights, and federal democratic principles, and working proactively to continue serving the public while caring mental and physical wellbeing of our employees. We will notice further regarding this issue in due course.

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