

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

Brussels, 13 March 1995

5426/95 (Presse 72)

P. 26/95

**DECLARATION OF THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN BURMA**

The European Union has followed with the greatest disquiet the development of the situation in recent weeks on the border between Burma and Thailand. Following the military operations conducted against the Karen, the European Union made a representation to the Director-General for Political Affairs of the Burmese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rangoon on 15 February 1995. In doing so, the European Union voiced serious concern at the consequences of this offensive and at the flood of refugees to Thailand provoked by the military action.

The European Union wishes to express its grave anxiety at the continuation of military operations against the last pockets of resistance of the KNU on the Burmese-Thai border, in total opposition to the policy of national reconciliation preached by the Burmese Government. It wishes to reiterate in this connection its hope that a peaceful solution will be found quickly for the problem of the ethnic minorities.

The European Union would also reiterate its concern at the extension to 11 July 1995 of the period of detention of Mrs Aung San Suu Kyi.

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Slovakia associate themselves with this declaration.