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## **April 1, 2017 - Press Summary**

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### **600 PACE observers watch election process in all the by-election constituencies**

Yangon, April 1

On April 1, PACE deployed nonpartisan observers in polling stations in all states and regions participating in the 2017 by-elections. From reports received thus far, all PACE observers have been able to observe the process. PACE received isolated reports of observers not being able to enter the polling stations initially, but those incidents have been resolved. Due to problems in the communication network, PACE has not been able to receive observer reports from parts of Chin and Shan.

Sai Ye Kyaw Swar Myint of PACE said, "We hope that the remaining processes- voting, closing and counting - will be as open and transparent as the opening process, and all the eligible voters go to the polling stations to cast their votes."

- 99% of observers were permitted to enter the polling station before voting began. The isolated incidents of observers were initially not allowed to monitor the setup procedures were quickly addressed with the assistance of election authorities.
- 88% of polling station facilities were accessible to all voters, including elderly and disabled voters.
- At least 10 polling station members were present in 88% of polling stations.
- In 93% of polling stations, the advanced ballot boxes were delivered before the station opened.
- In 85% of polling stations, Form 13 (Advanced Voting) was posted outside the polling station.
- At the time of opening, 96% of polling stations had all necessary materials, while 3% were missing results forms 16 and 17, and 1% were missing voter lists. Less than 1% of polling stations were missing indelible ink.
- In 92% of polling stations, voting began by 6:30, while in 8% voting began after that time.

PACE hopes that voters will participate and that the process will remain peaceful.

PACE plans to release its preliminary findings on the conduct of election day tomorrow, April 2.

### **About PACE**

The People's Alliance for Credible Elections (PACE) is an independent, non-partisan, non-government domestic election observer group based in Yangon. PACE was founded in 2013 to strengthen democratic institutions in



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**ပြည်သူ့မှားယွင်းလျစ်လျူမှုအဖွဲ့**  
PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR CREDIBLE ELECTIONS

Myanmar through safeguarding citizen rights and promoting public participation in the electoral process. To promote transparency, accountability and inclusiveness in the electoral process, PACE mainly works on election observation, electoral reform, and civic and voter education.

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