



## Spot report : Several day of Dump Fire in Yangon, Myanmar.

### Background



The huge fire at a dump site in Hteinpin Cemetery, the former capital's Hlaingtharya township has been burned since 21<sup>st</sup> April. This landfill, where stores the garbage collected in Yangon, has been managed by the Yangon City Development Committee over two decades. The fire and the foul-smelling smoke from the burning garbage has affected several townships in western Yangon. The bad smell from the burning smoke was widely felt at Hlaing Tharyar, Hlaing, Mayangone, Shwepyithar, and North Okkalapa townships.

The fire was not burning at one place. It was everywhere at dump site. It was not easy to extinguish, as the whole dumpsite was smoldering. Myanmar firefighters have brought the battling the flames under control a blaze in a massive garbage dump on the edge of Yangon on 25<sup>th</sup> April. Deputy Director of Myanmar Fire Service Department said that the fire is under control.

The impact of dump fire brought about health problems. Health authorities have alerted people to take precaution against the poisonous carbon monoxide which will result in coughing and choking. Township medical officer Daw Khin Yupar Soe said only one death had been reported. U Sann Lwin Oo, the head of Hlaing Tharyar General Hospital said there were 38 people who received medical treatment, with underlying health problems relating to the lungs, kidneys and heart, which the smoke had exacerbated. To date 19 patients were admitted to hospital, while 19 were treated at the Outpatient Department. The military reported that medical center received over 150 patients who came with respiratory problems on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Actions Taken



Chief Minister, Yangon Region Government, H.E. Phyo Min Thein said "The member of military, red-cross society, police department, fire service department and Yangon City Development Committee are vigorously working together to control the fire and smoke. Bio-foam imported from Thailand will be used. The current situation, fire is controlled. The consequences of dump fire is air pollution. Therefore, local authorities are trying to measure the air pollution in the affected areas.

Health authorities have provided medical assistances. Local people with health problems relating to smoke inhalation has been hospitalized and some of them has been treated at the Outpatient Department.

### ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS -

#### ***Severity ranking of the concerns effect in the ASEAN region.***

<b><i>Section</i></b>	<b><i>Ranking</i></b>	<b><i>Issues identified</i></b>	<b><i>Recommendations</i></b>
<i>Dump fire in Yangon, Myanmar.</i>	G	The fire is under control. The local authorities able to control situation. Medical treatment has been providing. The assessment for this situation is green.	Monitor the situation closely. Health surveillance is recommended.

#### ***Remarks:***

***R:*** Severe Situation: Urgent intervention required.

***Y:*** Situation of concern: Surveillance or assistance may or may not require, intensive monitoring

***G:*** Relative normal situation or local Government can cope with the crisis, monitoring and no action required.

***NA:*** Lack of /unreliable data: Further assessment required.

### ***ACMM Recommendations,***

According to the situation, the ACMM is monitoring the situation for providing a medical update to member countries. The pollution might cause the health problem. The health surveillance should be implemented.

### ***References:***

1. <https://frontiermyanmar.net/en/dozens-hospitalised-as-rubbish-dump-fire-burns-for-fourth-day>
2. <https://www.mmtimes.com/news/dump-fire-raging-after-three-days-chokes-yangon-residents.html>
3. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/myanmar-firefighters-tackle-garbage-dump-blaze-10176082>
4. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-04/26/c\\_137139264.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-04/26/c_137139264.htm)
5. <http://www.myanmarinternationaltv.com/news/cooperative-efforts-80-rubbish-dump-fire-under-control>