

**From:** Senator the Hon David Fawcett, LP, SA

**At:** 14:36

**To:** Robyn Mudie, First Assistant Secretary - Office of Southeast Asia - Southeast Asia Mainland and Regional Division

**Topic:** Myanmar Crisis

**Question:** The special advisory council on Myanmar has issued a report recently where they, I'll use the word claim, they observe, that the Tatmadaw only effectively control around 17% of the country, and that the NUG and the ethnic armed groups either have influence or presence in around 52% of the country. Would you have any insight as to whether those figures are accurate?

**Answer**

We are aware of the report by the Special Advisory Council for Myanmar (SAC-M), but cannot verify the accuracy of the specific numbers cited given the nature of Myanmar's dynamic civil conflict.

Australia funds a range of trusted humanitarian and development partners in Myanmar, including the UN, NGOs and the Red Cross Movement. Our partners face severe access and operating environment constraints but are still able to deliver assistance, often working with local organisations in hard-to-reach areas. These partners have established systems and networks in place which seek to mitigate risks in the current environment, and ensure accountability.