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**Statement by Ambassador H.E. Mr. Htin Lynn,  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Myanmar  
During the General Debate of the oral update of the High Commission of Human  
Rights at the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council  
Geneva, 12 September 2017**

**Mr. Vice President,**

- The terms “crimes against humanity” and “ethnic cleansing” carry very serious connotations.
- They can only be used in the most responsible manner. And they can only be founded on legal and judicial determinations. Democratic Myanmar shall never tolerate such atrocities.
- I would like to place on record, Myanmar’s strong objection to the use of such terms in the opening statement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at the 36<sup>th</sup> session of HRC, yesterday.
- It is regrettable that a high office holder trying to promote high standards of human rights in the most responsible, unbiased, professional and objective manner has used these terms.
- As a democratic government, such atrocities are very much against our human right standards, values and practices.
- Such accusations cannot be based on misinformation. It is already revealed that fake photos and disinformation are being used in campaign against Myanmar.
- Using such terms imprudently without concrete evidence would tarnish the credibility of the Office, fan the flame on the ground, widen polarization between the relevant communities and mislead the international community.

**Mr. Vice President,**

- Displacement of people is occurred in Rakhine State out of fear, and escaping from the conflict triggered by the terrorist group so-called “Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army-ARSA”. Moreover, the ARSA is inciting the people to leave their homes by giving false hope of resettlement in a third country. One lesser known fact is that tens of thousands of other communities including Rakhine, Hindu, Mro, Daingnet and Kaman are equally affected and are also in

displacement. We are taking every effort to provide indiscriminate humanitarian assistance to all in need in cooperation with ICRC, IFRC, UK, Denmark, US, Australia, EU and the UN country team.

**Mr. Vice President,**

- My government is fully aware of the need to take swift and firm actions for a sustainable solution to Rakhine issue. In a few months' time in the office, the government created the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State led by Dr. Kofi Annan to this end. My government is fully committed to the implementation of its recommendations. The international community can best help Myanmar by joining hands in such implementation.
- Thank you Mr. Vice President.

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