



Remarks by H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun, Permanent Representative of Myanmar Item 2: Enhanced Interactive dialogue on High Commissioner Report, at the 45th Session of Human Rights Council (at closing)

(Geneva, 14 September 2020)

Madam President,

First of all, I wish to thank the delegations who took the floor in support of Myanmar and in a constructive and objective manner.

I would like to make the following points.

First, national reconciliation and peace, democracy and human rights and sustainable and inclusive development are intertwined in building democracy. Challenges we face are not single but multiple, not simple but complex and sensitive. Therefore the government is addressing them in a holistic and comprehensive manner. Nothing can be set aside.

Second, no one can deny that the positive changes are taking place in Myanmar. Critics may say that it is not enough. Of course, we wish to achieve our goal of creating a democratic state at once; we wish to complete the process overnight. But realizing the reality is crucial. Thorough understanding of our history, our culture and the background and complexity of the issues are also extremely important. Thus, appropriate time and space should be given to surely succeed the goal and fruitfully complete the process.

Third, accuracy of information is essential in making a right decision. It is not acceptable that unsubstantiated and unverified allegations found their ways to the reports of the UN. It will impact negatively on the image of the country concerned and on the efforts of the country to resolve the issue. Therefore, we urge the OHCHR to rely on verified information.

Fourth, the situation in Rakhine is complex with deep historical roots, and not easy to fathom. Inter-communal tensions, lack of economic opportunities, low level of development and other political factors constitute the sufferings of many innocent people. The ongoing conflicts in the Rakhine State pose a challenge to the sovereignty and security of Myanmar. Hence, we believe that externalizing the issue of Rakhine is only fanning the flames of an extreme polarization which can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar.

Finally, **Madam President**, I would like to reaffirm Myanmar's commitment that we will continue our best efforts with the strength of the people of Myanmar for achieving the goals towards a peaceful and prosperous democratic federal union. Understanding, constructive engagement, genuine cooperation of the international community towards Myanmar will be the only way forward in finding a sustainable solution to the issue of Rakhine and would be helpful to our efforts for building a democratic federal union with sustainable peace and development.

I thank you.
