

**Myanmar's observations on the Interactive Dialogue on the Report of
the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Myanmar
at the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council**

The Permanent Mission of Myanmar in Geneva has further observed that the interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar since 1 February 2022" was conducted on 21 March 2022 during the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council.

To date, the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council spent over 5 hours on Myanmar amid serious debates on proliferation of Interactive Dialogues and on efficiency measures. Multiple reports of the High Commissioner and the Special Rapporteur and the respective dialogues are simply the duplication of work. The report of the Secretary-General is putting undue pressure on UN Country Teams across the world including in Myanmar to politicize the profession of different UN agencies under the name of mainstreaming human rights. All these mechanisms question the efficiency of the HRC in addition to the question of universality, objectivity and non-selectivity.

While the report of the High Commissioner overstates one-sided allegations against the Myanmar Government, the representation of Myanmar was intentionally left out from the Interactive Dialogue, which means that the HRC does not allow the country concerned to reflect the actual situation on the ground. This goes contrary to the mandate of the High Commissioner which requires her to engage in a dialogue with all governments in the implementation of her mandate.

As a member state, it is discouraging to witness the damaging precedent of the HRC, when the methods of the work of the Council are not transparent, fair, impartial and do not create genuine dialogue. Against this backdrop, the HRC should not be the platform to gather the narratives of anti-government groups.

To give an example, the High Commissioner herself was well-aware that there were massive killings committed by the terrorist groups but downplayed their terrorist acts and even incited them to further unrest. In her report, the High Commissioner

understated the actual figures of terrorist acts committed by NUG and PDF terrorist groups. The High Commissioner even failed to mention them when she presented her report to the Council (*check against delivery) while calling the international community to act based on her biased conclusion.

On 7 September 2021, the terrorist CRPH, NUG and PDFs declared the acceleration of terrorist attacks and have intensified gross violations such as killings, bombing, arson attacks and many destructive acts. As of January 2022, a total of 1,988 innocent civilians have lost their lives and 1,383 have been injured. Additionally, a total of 312 government employees including teachers and health staff were killed and 926 were injured. Due to their terrorist acts, a large number of private and public assets including 27 hospitals and clinics and 504 schools and educational buildings were destroyed across the nation from 1 February 2021 to end of January 2022. All these casualties and loss of properties are committed by PDFs terrorists and their affiliates.

The High Commissioner further made references to the number of deaths coming from the so-called credible sources and no one knows how the High Commissioner identified which source is credible. We have observed that the source only creates numbers without verifiable facts and it is incomprehensible how the High Commissioner considered them as credible.

In the meantime, Myanmar observed certain statements with concerns about the displaced persons from Rakhine State. In reality, the dialogues between Myanmar and Bangladesh have been ongoing for repatriation. For instance, the Ad Hoc Task Force for Verification of the Displaced Persons from Rakhine State was held on 27 January 2022 at the Ministry of Immigration and Population via videoconference, where the special task forces between Myanmar and Bangladesh discussed specific matters of repatriation.

The government of Myanmar has granted access to different UN agencies and international organizations to its states and regions including Rakhine State. In Sittwe and Maungdaw alone, over a dozen of United Nations agencies and over 40 INGOs have their offices.

Moreover, if the High Commissioner wants to see the tangible results from the five-point consensus, she should not fail to objectively reflect the facts that Myanmar is committed in continuing its cooperation with the ASEAN and that Myanmar's commitment was shown in deed, not in words since the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting in Jakarta in April 2021. As a very eminent evidence, the Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received ASEAN Special Envoy to Myanmar, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia Mr. Prak Sokhonn, ASEAN Secretary-General Dato Lim Jock Hoi on 21 March 2022 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar also observed intrusive statements from certain countries blatantly interfere in the internal affairs of Myanmar. While Myanmar shares concerns by the international community on this matter, one-sided remarks with no knowledge of factual accounts on the ground and/or with politicized motives are not acceptable, as they do not bring any solution but only pose hindrance to the work of the Government.

In this regard, Myanmar strongly rejects not only one-sided report and remarks based on inaccurate and unverified information but also all forms of intimidation against a sovereign State.

Likewise, the Human Rights Council is advised to follow its Rules of Procedures and to refrain from the practice of double standards and politicization. In the same vein, the High Commissioner is called to perform her duties in an impartial, objective and constructive manner as stipulated in the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

While it is regrettable to see that the HRC becomes a platform to interfere in the domestic affairs of the country at an unprecedented level, Myanmar wishes to express its appreciation to the countries which uphold the principles of the HRC and made statements reflecting situation on the ground.

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