

Myanmar's response to politically motivated resolution entitled "Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar" tabled by Pakistan on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

- The draft resolution entitled "Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar" tabled by Pakistan on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was taken action during the 53rd Session of Human Rights Council on 14 July in Geneva.
- The origin of the resolution was emanated from the incident that took place in Northern Rakhine State in 2017 when the terrorist attacks were launched by ARSA aka Aqua Mul Mujahidin. The elements of the successive resolutions have failed to properly include reality of the ground situation, historical background and root cause of the issue. It is necessary to recognize that many displaced persons have been facing life-threatening challenges and could not return to Myanmar, as extremists and anti-repatriation elements are active in the camps of Bangladesh side.
- It is observed that the said resolution fails to sufficiently reflect Myanmar's tremendous efforts for necessary preparations to receive verified returnees including the first batch of repatriation of 1,176 verified displaced persons under the pilot project in line with the bilateral agreements and positive progress on the ground. Pilot project was not able to implement due to many reasons including life threats imposed by ARSA aka Aqua Mul Mujahidin and the two countries have currently been negotiating for the earliest possible date to commence the pilot project. Discrediting Myanmar's sincere cooperation with Bangladesh to repatriate the displaced persons and lack of support for national efforts are not the optimal ways to advance the promotion and protection of human rights. In addition, calls for repealing and replacing 1982 Citizenship Law in the resolution are tantamount to interference in internal affairs of Myanmar. It is also important to underscore that the number of displaced persons is inaccurately inflated by stating over 1.1 million living in Bangladesh camps.
- With regard to humanitarian assistance to those in need, the Government of Myanmar has adopted a policy of no one left behind in addressing the challenges.

The Myanmar Government will continue providing assistance to the needy people and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance in an equitable and non-discriminatory manner in cooperation with the international community. In light of access granted by Myanmar to different diplomatic missions, AHA Center and UN agencies, allegations contained in the resolution in connection with access are evidently wrong.

- Furthermore, Myanmar strongly opposes the reference to the Security Council and International Criminal Court in the resolution. The recommendations go beyond the mandate of the Human Rights Council.
- The resolution aims to highlight the fact-finding mission and investigative mechanism on Myanmar. Myanmar renews its position on not recognizing and accepting their mandate, establishment and follow-up activities.
- Repeated calls to address root causes with one-sided narratives have negative impact on social cohesion in Rakhine State provoking resentment among the different communities and unconstructive perception does not help the successful implementation of the repatriation process.
- The Myanmar Mission's official website serves as an excellent source of detailed observations on the resolution.
- Myanmar does not recognize the invented term "Rohingya" as it has never existed in legal and historical records of the country. The people of Myanmar cannot accept the term "Rohingya" with the wider political agenda to claim ethnicity and territorial status.
- Myanmar steadfastly opposes the country-specific resolutions as their modalities do not create objective reporting, constructive dialogue and cooperation between the country-concerned and the international community. For these reasons, Myanmar rejects the said resolution as a whole and dissociates itself from the adoption of it.