

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – 51st SESSION

### Interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

21 September 2022

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, **Thomas Andrews**, reported the Council on figures and data concerning the innocent people killed or injured by landmines in Myanmar. He reported of the **frustration, disappointment and anger** of the people of Myanmar at the failure and lack of response by the international community and the UN Member States to this crisis and called for change. The **Myanmar military** is committing **war crimes** and **crimes against humanity on a daily basis**, including sexual violence, torture, deliberate targeting of civilians, and murder. The Special Rapporteur also affirmed that five years after a genocidal campaign was launched against the **Rohingya**, they continue to face discrimination, repression, and human rights abuses daily. The humanitarian crisis has become a **humanitarian catastrophe**. This crisis is forcing many to flee Myanmar, embarking on perilous journeys across land and sea. Mr. Andrews said that the amount of humanitarian aid available to address the crisis is grossly **inadequate**. More than 80% of the UN Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan remains unfunded. Finally, considering the key role and the power of people to defy and set back powerful military forces, he urged the Council to protect people, support neighbouring countries and to set a comprehensive course of actions in order to address the escalating humanitarian needs of displaced and traumatized populations.

#### Interactive dialogue

23 country delegations took the floor during the interactive dialogue. The majority of the Countries, including the **EU, Austria, Malaysia, Bangladesh**, and **Sierra Leone** were concerned about the situation in Myanmar, and strongly condemned the ongoing use of violence against civilians and other egregious human rights violations. They expressed concern about the Rohingyas' situations and the violations committed by the junta. They reiterated the call on the military junta to immediately end all acts of violence, to fully respect international law and all human rights and to release immediately and unconditionally all those arbitrarily detained. Among others, **Luxembourg, Croatia** and **Bulgaria** condemned in the firmest terms the use of the death penalty against political prisoners and called on the Myanmar military to reinstate the moratorium. **Venezuela** rejected the illegal UCMs imposed on the country that cause serious suffering to its population and human rights violations and demanded their immediate elimination. **China** regretted the absence of Myanmar, as country concerned, during the present dialogue. It affirmed that the international community should respect the sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity of Myanmar, facilitate dialogue, consultations, and reconciliation in order to restore political, economic and social stability.

**NGOs** shared deep concern about the situation of mass violence in Myanmar, including crimes against humanity, war crimes, torture, sexual and gender-based violence and crimes against children with total impunity. The down-spiral of violence on the ground is deteriorating the lives of millions in Myanmar. Alongside violations of the right to privacy, NGOs continued to document Internet shutdowns across the country. Recognising that the challenges faced by the people of Myanmar, including Rohingyas, are enormous, NGOs called for the establishment of safe zones and safe corridors to provide much needed humanitarian relief such as food and medicines; an arms embargo; and strategies to enhance civic space protection inside the country.

Delegations that took the floor during the Interactive Dialogue (23 country delegations):

*Luxembourg (on behalf of Benelux), EU, Pakistan, Sweden (on behalf of Nordic Baltic states), Sierra Leone, Republic of Korea, France, Australia, India, Austria, Venezuela, China, Czech Republic, Malaysia, U.S., United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Croatia, Bulgaria, Thailand, Malawi, Japan, Germany.*

NHRIs and NGOs that took the floor (11):

*Baptist World Alliance, Asia Forum for Human Rights, Centre pour les Droits Civils et Politiques - Centre CCPR, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Article 19 - International Centre Against Censorship, CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Partners for Transparency, iuventum e.V., International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development.*

***International organizations (0):***

To watch full meeting refer to UN Web TV: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).