

53rd Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council

Agenda Item 4:

**Interactive Dialogue on the written update of the High Commissioner
on the situation of human rights in Myanmar**

Oral Statement by

Centre for Civil and Political Rights (CCPR Centre)

6 July 2023

Thank you Mr. President,

The Centre for Civil and Political Rights welcomes the update of the High Commissioner and his efforts to seek solutions to the crisis in Myanmar. The Centre especially appreciates that OHCHR strived to engage as many interlocutors as feasible, that questionnaires were also sent to the National Unity Government (NUG), ethnic armed organisations and private companies, and that his report analyses obligations of all duty-bearers and gives recommendations to the NUG, UN Security Council, ASEAN and other Member States.

However, despite the efforts of so many including the people of Myanmar, the junta continues its atrocity against civilians, widespread and systematic violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws, including crimes against humanity and war crimes, with total impunity, displacing millions and deliberately blocking humanitarian aid. Villages are burnt down. Innocent civilians including pregnant women, children, elderly and persons with disability are killed by indiscriminate air strikes and artillery shelling. Torture and ill-treatment are rampant. Schools, hospitals, shelters, monasteries are deliberately targeted. People are arrested for wearing flowers. Tens of thousands are detained in unsanitary conditions, provided dirty food and water, and denied access to medical treatment. Defending lawyers are also intimidated and arrested.

Furthermore, disastrous governance and administration of the junta have been destroying the rule of law, judiciary, economy, finance, health care and other important elements of the society. The situation on the ground is much worse than available statistics and data show. For displaced Rohingyas, as the High Commissioner pointed out, *“safe, dignified, and sustainable returns remain impossible.”* Current multi-dimensional crisis in Myanmar is clearly man-made, but the culprit is yet to be held accountable.

Mr. High Commissioner,

The junta is literally shattering the lives, livelihoods and future of the people of Myanmar. How can we ensure that your recommendations are implemented by all duty-bearers, especially the Myanmar military who has shown complete disregard for international laws, UN resolutions and ASEAN 5 Point Consensus and continue committing grave violations of human rights, crimes against humanity and war crimes? What can we do to increase coordination among Member States and strengthen the actions of international and regional bodies? What else do we need to end the impunity of the junta and hold them accountable?

Thank you Mr. President.