

53rd Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council

Agenda Item 4:

**Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur
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 Special Rapporteur and appreciate his work, reports and conference papers.

Despite mounting evidence of the junta's atrocity against civilians, complete disregard for the rights and lives of the people of Myanmar, and blatant ignorance of international laws, resolutions of UN bodies including the Security Council, and the ASEAN 5 Point Consensus, it is regrettable that there are still a number of States at this Council that remain silent or inactive, and that there are some States and inter-governmental agencies separately engaging with the junta representatives neglecting and undermining coordinated efforts of others. Furthermore, it is highly deplorable that there are even State and private actors, including State-owned companies, that continue trading with the junta and its affiliates providing them, directly or indirectly, with revenues, funds, resources and weapons.

With the presence of such actors the Myanmar junta is able to even intensify its brutal oppression and killing of people of Myanmar and continue enjoying total impunity. Crucial humanitarian aid is arbitrarily blocked including to the areas affected by recent cyclone. The situation in the country is not at all conducive to safe, voluntary and dignified return of Rohingya refugees to their home. Their repatriation must not be forced.

The voice of the people of Myanmar, including Rohingya refugees, must be heard and urgently acted upon by all in the international community in a coordinated manner. The Myanmar junta must be held accountable. Silence of Member States is not neutral but neglect of the duty to protect human rights. The impact of genuine efforts of so many are compromised by individual acts of some helping the junta ignore international laws, UN resolutions and ASEAN's calls, and continue committing atrocities against civilians with total impunity.

Mr. Special Rapporteur,

As you said at the end of your mission to Indonesia, *"The people of Myanmar do not have decades nor years – some do not even have days – for the junta to be held accountable."* How can we strengthen the unity and coordination in the international response to the crisis in Myanmar? What more is needed to stop the atrocity and impunity of the Myanmar junta and to save the lives of all people in Myanmar?

Thank you Mr. President.