

48th Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council

Agenda Item 4:

Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's written update on Myanmar

Oral Statement

By

Centre for Civil and Political Rights (CCPR Centre)

23 September 2021

Thank you Madame President,

The CCPR Centre welcomes the written updates of the High Commissioner and commends the work of her and her office.

As stated by the High Commissioner, *"For decades, the Tatmadaw has committed gross human rights violations with impunity, including alleged international crimes against ethnic minorities"* and the recent *"coup has evolved into a human rights catastrophe that shows no signs of abating"*. Since the coup on 1 February 2021, evidence of systematic and widespread killings, sexual violence, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, and torture has been mounting while calls from the people of Myanmar have been left unattended to.

Beyond the developments until mid-July recorded by the High Commissioner's written update, the Tatmadaw has further driven the country into a multi-dimensional political, economic, human rights and humanitarian crisis as examined in our written statement to the current Council (*A/HRC/48/NGO/69*) while the international community has stood aside.

As the Tatmadaw continues to commit acts in violation of international human rights and humanitarian law, the situation on the ground now borders nation-wide armed conflict and state collapse.

Distinguished Members of the Council,

Words of concern or condemnation are not enough. In order to save the lives and futures of the people of Myanmar, all the reports and evidence provided to this Council must be acted on. The actions recommended by the High Commissioner are the requisite minimum. Military impunity and acts of atrocity must be ended immediately, all perpetrators held to account, and humanitarian assistance urgently delivered.

Madame High Commissioner,

What role could you and your office play to effectively facilitate and coordinate the actions taken by UN Member States, the different mechanisms set up under the Council, and other UN and regional bodies?

Thank you, Madame President.