

30th Session of the HRC Statement by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC Oral Update by the HC on Myanmar under Agenda Item 2

Mr. President,

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the OIC Member States. We thank the High Commissioner for his oral update pursuant to OIC-sponsored HRC resolution on "Human Rights Situation of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar".

The OIC while reaffirming that States have the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights of their citizens calls upon the Government of Myanmar to ensure the protection of human rights of all Muslims including Rohingyas within its territory. It is important to take all necessary measures to address the spread of discrimination and prejudice against Muslims in Myanmar.

The OIC believes in the policy of dialogue and cooperation rather than confrontation. We have remain engaged with the government of Myanmar and in the similar spirit an MOU and the Joint Communiqué were signed between the OIC and the government of Myanmar in 2012 and 2013 respectively. These included commitments for the initiation of projects for local development, promotion of intercultural dialogue and provision of humanitarian assistance without any discrimination. Unfortunately, commitments by the government of Myanmar still await implementation.

There is an urgent need to address the root causes of violence against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. Needless to emphasize that patterns of widespread and systematic human rights violations in Rakhine State may constitute crimes against humanity.

Mr President,

The OIC calls upon the Government of Myanmar to take urgent measures to:

- i. conduct a credible and independent investigation into the allegations of widespread and systematic human rights violations against Muslims in Myanmar and in particular in Rakhine State;
- ii. allow full access of humanitarian assistance to the affected persons and communities without any discrimination; and
- iii. reform the Citizenship Act of 1982 by granting full citizenship rights to Rohingya Muslims.

We sincerely hope that the Government of Myanmar will respond positively and will engage constructively with the OIC in order to promote and protect the realization of basic human rights of Rohingya muslims in Myanmar including access to land, water, education, healthcare, marriages, birth registration, freedom of movement, religion, belief, expression and most importantly the right to life.

The OIC shall be closely following the developments in Myanmar and hope that High Commissioner's report called for by the OIC resolution at the 32nd HRC Session would comprehensively address all the grave issues of human rights violations and abuses against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar.

I thank you.