



HRC56 – Interactive Dialogue on the Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Situation of Human Rights of Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities in Myanmar (HRC res. 50/3)

BENELUX Statement

(18 June 2024)

Thank you, Mr. President.

This statement is on behalf of the Benelux: Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. We align with the EU statement.

We thank the High Commissioner for his report, and we support its conclusions and recommendations. As he states, the human rights situation in Myanmar is in freefall, and human rights protection and civilian rule of law are absent. The increasing number of airstrikes and the continued violence towards civilians are causing great suffering among the population. The situation of children's rights is nothing short of catastrophic.

In Rakhine, the Rohingya's suffering is reaching new heights with the enforcement of the conscription law providing cover for the forcible abduction of Rohingya men out of villages and camps, even beyond Myanmar's border, to recruit them into the military. These violations and abuses show the urgent need for the parties concerned to adhere to the ICJ's provisional measures, also concerning the safe return of Rohingya refugees to Myanmar, which is currently not a possibility.

We explicitly acknowledge efforts to build local, democratic, human rights-based, and victim-centered systems of governance and welcome the efforts of the National Unity Government and others working towards an inclusive, democratic future for Myanmar.

Mr. High Commissioner,

You have recently returned from a mission to the region, with visits to Malaysia, Lao PDR, and Thailand. How can the international community, in particular the ASEAN and OIC member states and other partners of Myanmar, act concretely for justice for the Rohingya and a better future for all?

Thank you.

(252 words - 1m30s)