Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 14 November, 2014

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw raises objection to UNSG’s use of “Rohingya”

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 Nov — The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on Friday unanimously approved an emergency motion calling on the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to object to the use of the term “Rohingya” by UN Secretary-General Ban Kimoon as it interfered with the sovereignty of Myanmar.

The motion was put forward by Representative U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Township Constituency and seconded by Representative Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yathedaung Township Constituency.

U Thein Nyunt said that under international law, all should respect the law of a host country and the UN secretary-general should not have used the word “Rohingya,” as the people it refers to have never existed officially in Myanmar and are not Myanmar citizens, adding that this might harm the stability of the democratic transition. Daw Khin Saw Wai also said that the use of the word hampers the stability between the Rakhine nationals and the Bengalis, explaining that there is no such race as “Rohingya” in Myanmar.

The motion was unanimously approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The UN secretary-general used the word at a press conference held at Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 November. Also Friday, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session approved the Myanmar Aviation Bill and a bill for medical treatment for emergency patients.—MNA