



Republic of the Union of Myanmar

National Unity Government

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**United Nations Human Rights Council 54th Session
Statement on the Republic of the Union of Myanmar's human rights commitments**

18th September 2023

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar, as represented by the National Unity Government, issues this brief statement on its human rights commitments.

In March 2022, the National Unity Government circulated a report to Geneva delegations that provided Myanmar's replies and voluntary commitments following its third cycle UPR examination. We stand by these commitments, which included formally abolishing the death penalty, ratifying all international human rights treaties and their optional protocols, cooperating with the International Court of Justice in *The Gambia v. Myanmar* case, and increasing women's political representation and decision-making at all levels.

The National Unity Government continues to extend its full cooperation to the Human Rights Council and its mandates. We support and actively engage with the Special Rapporteur on Myanmar and we have issued a standing invitation to Special Procedures mandate-holders. We remain committed to implementing relevant recommendations of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar.

The National Unity Government regularly submits information to OHCHR to inform its crucial investigations and reports on Myanmar's dire human rights situation. We will work with the Office to set up a country presence in Myanmar.

The National Unity Government is committed to delivering justice to survivors of historic and continuing military atrocities. We pledge our cooperation with international, regional and national accountability mechanisms, particularly countries exercising universal jurisdiction. This builds on our article 12(3) declaration to the International Criminal Court in 2021, which accepted the Court's jurisdiction in Myanmar going back to 1 July 2002.

We also continue to partner with the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar, submitting information and identifying witnesses to provide testimony in safe and secure ways. We strongly support the IIMM's efforts to hold the military accountable for its atrocity campaigns against the Rohingya, and we are ready to explore the IIMM's access to Myanmar to facilitate on the ground investigations into the military junta's widespread crimes.

The National Unity Government, acting on its 'Policy Position on the Rohingya', is committed to creating the conditions needed to bring the Rohingya and other displaced communities home in voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable ways. A Rohingya leader now serves as Deputy

Minister of Human Rights to ensure that Rohingya perspectives inform and support the development of government policies and programs.

Furthermore, we are working with the [Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw](#) on legislative change to ensure the equal treatment and protection of all communities, including ethnic and religious minorities. This will see the replacement of the Citizenship Law of 1982 with a new law that bases citizenship on birth in Myanmar or birth anywhere as a child of Myanmar citizens, the abolition of the National Verification Card process, and the repeal of the Race and Religion Protection Laws of 2015. We will also introduce laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Myanmar's Federal Democracy Charter promises an inclusive nation founded on peace, justice, equality, human rights and the protection of minorities. We urge the international community to support us in delivering it to our people.

National Unity Government