

MYANMAR

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Human Rights Council,
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Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in
Myanmar

Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro

Geneva, December 12th 2007

(A/HRC/6/14)

INTERVENTION BY BRAZIL

Mr. Chairman,

Let me congratulate the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar for his report mandated by resolution S-5/1 adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 5th Special Session dedicated to the situation of human rights in Myanmar.

Although Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro's recent visit to Myanmar was a brief five-day mission, his report outlines the underlying causes of the recent tragic events there, focuses on relevant circumstances and on major incidents. It encompasses the human rights situation from August through the end of the curfew on the 20th October of this year, particularly focusing

on events that took place from the 26th to the 29th of September. His recommendations for future actions are based on such background.

Brazil expresses its recognition for Myanmar's decision to start cooperating with the HRC by issuing the invitation for Professor Pinheiro's mission and for allowing him to meet high level officials as well as members of the newly established human rights governmental body. His was not a fact finding mission in its full sense, since he faced limitations to act independently. We regret such shortcomings.

Brazil is aware of some ~~positive~~ signs on the part of the Government of Myanmar in the human rights field. However, we are concerned with the limited scope of the initiatives and with the follow up of recommendations and messages emanating from ^{the Council and} the international community to promote and protect human rights in Myanmar.

Mr. President,

It is our view that the Human Rights Council has played a key role in inspiring a constructive approach of the situation in Myanmar, as a

x consensus builder on such a delicate issue. Countries from different regions and diversified historical, cultural background managed to understand both the need to stress the promotion of human rights as well as the absolute necessity to count upon the indispensable ^{views} ~~advice~~ and cooperation from

Myanmar's neighbouring countries and from ASEAN. ~~A responsible role~~

~~the~~ *Promoting the right to freedom of expression, ~~the~~ ^{the role of law and} ~~the~~ ^{stimulating a} ~~the~~ ^{a genuine}* on the part of the international community will continue to be of key relevance. *instrumental in improving the HR situation in Myanmar*

We are hopeful more concrete measures to safeguard human rights will prevail in the near future, fostering a climate of national reconciliation and harmonious development in that country.

I thank you Mr. President.

The international community has a key role in this context