

The Republic of Korea

HR situations that require the HCR's special attention
(Myanmar – 11.12.2007)

Mr. President,

I would first like to thank Special Rapporteur Mr. Pinheiro for his comprehensive report. The Republic of Korea shares the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report.

While appreciating the cooperation of the Government of Myanmar extended to the Special Rapporteur during his visit to the country on his assessment mission, we would like to urge the Government of Myanmar to take concrete actions as prescribed in the report.

It is the duty of the Government to satisfy basic needs of its people and promote and protect their human rights and fundamental freedoms. We therefore consider that it is of utmost importance that the Government of Myanmar listen to the international community's call for the protection of the human rights and take appropriate measures.

Mr. President,

We welcome the recent signing of the ASEAN Charter by the Government of Myanmar. We sincerely hope that Myanmar's entry into the Charter will encourage its government to strengthen its commitment to democracy, good governance, rule of law and promotion and protection of the human rights. We also wish that the Charter will have positive impacts in the region as well.

We are disappointed by the Special Rapporteur's finding that there are no significant signs that the Government of Myanmar is implementing what ^{are} demanded by the HRC resolution S-5/1. We therefore support the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur that his mandate be extended.

We would also like to urge the Government of Myanmar to allow the Special Rapporteur to make follow-up visits to Myanmar and meet important political leaders, including Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi. We call on the Government of Myanmar to engage in national dialogue, particularly with members of the opposition groups, so as to prevent any further delay in the improvement of the political, economic and human rights situation of Myanmar.

Thank you.