

**Statement by the Indonesian Delegation
At the 7th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation
of human rights in Myanmar**

Geneva, 13 March 2008

Mr President,

At the outset, our delegation would like to thank the Special Rapporteur, Mr Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, for his ^{relevant} ~~report~~ ^{two} detailing his activities in Myanmar pursuant to resolutions ~~of~~ of the Human Rights Council, and for the visit he undertook to that country from 11-15 November 2007 at the invitation of the government. Moreover, we note that the Secretary-General's Special Adviser, Mr Ibrahim Gambari, has also visited Myanmar in the last few days.

Against this backdrop, we noted that several encouraging developments and initiatives by the Government of Myanmar have taken place since December 2007, which should be acknowledged. Among these are the announcements that a National Referendum would be held in May 2008 to seek approval of the State Constitution; and that the time-frame has been set for the holding of a multi-party general election in 2010, in accordance with the State Constitution. Meetings were also held on several occasions between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the Minister for Relations, and with the Chairman of the National League for Democracy, respectively.

These developments are heartening and are a first move in the direction of national reconciliation and democratization. Nonetheless, we would like to encourage the Government of Myanmar to continue its efforts and to broaden its dialogue and cooperation with all stake-holders in the country. In this regard, as a fellow member of ASEAN, Indonesia is of the view that the substantive implementation by the government of the 7-stage Roadmap for reconciliation and democratic transition will be a key indicator of its good faith.

Mr President,

Indonesia believes that the Council has a positive role to play in giving the Government of Myanmar all the support it may need to fulfill its obligations and to sustain the current opening of the dialogue with the international community.

Thank you.