

**Statement by**

**Ms. Maryam Fathika Fayaz**

**Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Maldives to the United Nations and other International Organisations at Geneva**

**Item 4: Interactive Dialogue on High Commissioner's Report on Myanmar**

**54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

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Thank you, Mr. President.

The Maldives thanks the High Commissioner for the updated and comprehensive report on the human rights situation in Myanmar. We also commend the work of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar in collecting evidence to prove individual criminal responsibility for serious international crimes.

Mr. President,

The situation in Myanmar regrettably has not improved since 2017. The Government of Maldives has consistently advocated for the protection of human rights of minorities in Myanmar, particularly the Rohingya Muslim minority. The Maldives is among the countries to intervene in the case filed at the ICJ by The Gambia, on behalf of the OIC, in support of the efforts to seek accountability for the acts of genocide committed against the Rohingya people. We assure the Council that we stand ready to collaborate with like-minded countries to bring the perpetrators to justice and to find a lasting solution to the crisis in Myanmar.

Before I conclude, I would like to reiterate our call to the Myanmar authorities to cooperate with international and regional judicial and accountability mechanisms and to fully comply with Myanmar's obligations under international humanitarian

and human rights law. The Maldives stands with the people of Myanmar and calls on authorities to facilitate the safe and dignified return of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities and revert to the path of democracy without delay, so that the people of Myanmar can live in peace, dignity, and freedom.

I thank you.