

**Statement by**

**His Excellency Dr. Asim Ahmed**

**Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Maldives to the United Nations and other International Organizations at Geneva**

**Item 2: Interactive Dialogue on High Commissioner's Report on Myanmar**

**52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

**6 March 2023**

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Maldives thanks the High Commissioner for the comprehensive report on the human rights situation in Myanmar.

Mr. President,

With reference to the High Commissioners report, it is extremely worrying to read about the systemic exclusion and repression suffered by the minorities in Myanmar, including the Rohingya Muslims.

Mr. President,

The Maldives believes that the solution to lasting peace and stability in Myanmar lies in dismantling the existing authoritarian structures through democratic transition. It is crucial that the authorities ensure conditions that are conducive to hold a free and fair election in Myanmar and to allow all citizens to exercise their fundamental rights without discrimination.

Mr. President,

The Government of Maldives has been a constant advocate for the human rights of minorities in Myanmar, especially that of the Rohingya Muslim minority. We will continue to work with like-minded countries to bring the perpetrators of genocide to justice and to find a durable solution to the crisis in Myanmar.

Before concluding, we would like to call on the authorities of Myanmar to fully comply with ICJ provisional measures and cooperate with all ongoing international and regional judicial and accountability mechanisms to uphold international human rights and humanitarian law in the country.

I thank you.