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Interactive Dialogue with the Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Peter Matt,

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mr. President,

Liechtenstein thanks the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar for its reports on various issues regarding the serious situation in Myanmar.

The report on sexual and gender-based violence in Myanmar and the gendered impact of its ethnic conflicts shows that sexual and gender-based violence continues to be used as an egregious and recurrent feature by the Tatmadaw and ethnic armed organizations against the Rohingya and other minorities in several States of Myanmar. It is appalling to hear about the wide-spread and systematic use of arbitrary deprivation of life, rape, torture and other inhuman, cruel and degrading treatment or punishment, arbitrary and unlawful detention, forced labour and sexual slavery.

We welcome the report's particular focus on sexual and gender-based violence against men, boys and transgender people and are concerned about the lack of willingness showed by the Government of Myanmar to address the pervasive impunity of the security forces for sexual and gender-based violence committed against ethnic minorities.

We urge the Government of Myanmar to promptly investigate and prosecute Tatmadaw and other security personnel, including senior officials in the Tatmadaw's chain of command, for sexual and gender-based violence, including serious crimes under international law, such as crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide.

We welcome the recent announcement that the Independent Investigative Mechanism on Myanmar has become operational and the announced handover by the Fact-Finding Mission of the evidence of serious crimes under international.

We furthermore welcome the request by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court from 4 July 2019 to authorize an investigation into alleged crimes against humanity, namely deportation, other inhumane acts and persecution committed against the Rohingya people from Myanmar, covering the period since October 2016. Liechtenstein finally reiterates its call for a Security Council referral to the ICC of the situation as a whole as important crimes such as sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) do not currently fall under the jurisdiction of the ICC.

We thank the Fact-Finding Mission for its work carried out in the recent years.

We thank you.