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General debate on the High Commissioner for Human Rights' oral update
19 June 2018

Intervention by Mr. Claudio Nardi, First Secretary
Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Mr. President,

We welcome the High Commissioner's comprehensive oral update and reaffirm our full support to his work. We commend him for his principled and impartial manner in which he carries out his mandate. It is of vital importance that the High Commissioner and his staff can fulfil their mandate unhindered. We also commend him for his leading role in advocating for a free and enabling civil society space. At the same time we urge all states to refrain from intimidations of and reprisals against human rights defenders and civil society in whatever circumstances.

Mr. President,

We welcome the High Commissioner's repeated calls for ensuring accountability for atrocity crimes committed in Syria and Myanmar. At the same time we are of the view that an ICC referral discussion should be held in both contexts. We believe pressure should not be taken away

from Security Council members to alleviate the suffering and ensure accountability for the crimes committed.

The situation of the Rohingya in Myanmar is among the most pressing example of the international community's lack of commitment to accountability. There is little indication that the accountability dimension of the ongoing crisis will be addressed. But it is clear that ensuring justice is part of the conditions necessary to allow for the safe and voluntary return of the forcibly displaced Rohingya population. We commend the ICC Prosecutor for exploring the option of investigating the forced displacement of the Rohingya as a crime against humanity. But we also continue to believe that the Security Council should use its competence to refer the situation – and thus all crimes committed in the conflict – to the Court.

I thank you!