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37th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the International, Independent Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

12 March 2018

Intervention by H.E. Mr. Peter Matt
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

We thank the International, Independent Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar for their oral update as well as the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for her report. We call upon Myanmar to cooperate not only with the Fact Finding Mission and the Special Rapporteur but also with other human rights mechanisms as well as all relevant UN bodies to independently monitor the human rights situation. We reiterate the need to grant them unconditional access without delay. We commend the Special Rapporteur for her calls to strengthen accountability efforts and for highlighting the need to secure evidence of atrocity crimes.

Both your presentations today put a spotlight on the grave crimes that led to the forcible displacement of the Rohingya for which perpetrators and those responsible must be held to account. You also highlighted the human rights deficiencies that need to be resolved to allow for a dignified voluntary return of the displaced and to bring sustainable peace to the region, in particular regarding the issue of statelessness.

The forcibly displaced have fled unimaginable suffering. Despite serious and systematic access restrictions many of the atrocities committed are well documented. Those responsible

must be held to account and we are concerned at the reluctance displayed by the Myanmar authorities in this regard. In accordance with the ACT Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, the Security Council also bears responsibility for timely and decisive action to prevent future atrocity crimes in Myanmar, including by ensuring justice for the grave crimes committed. We believe an ICC referral discussion should be held in the Security Council.

We would like to ask both of you the Fact Finding Mission and the Special Rapporteur what additional measures the Human Rights Council can take to strengthen your mandates?