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40th session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive Dialogue with
the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
11 March 2019

Intervention by Mr. Daniel Batliner, Second Secretary,
Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Mr. President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for her report. Liechtenstein is appalled by the on-going armed conflict and violence against minorities in Myanmar. In particular, we are concerned about the numerous grave violations against children, including killing and maiming, rape and sexual violence, and recruitment and use of children.

Furthermore, we are concerned about the still increasing number of Rohingya fleeing to Bangladesh. We share the Special Rapporteur's concern about the non-implementation of conditions for a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of Rohingya IDPs and refugees.

Given that the efforts undertaken by Myanmar are so far a clear indication of unwillingness to ensure accountability, the international community has an obligation to pursue other options. For reasons of principle, we think that an International Criminal Court referral discussion is urgently needed in the Security Council. At the same time, we welcome the ruling of the International Criminal Court Pre-Trial Chamber asserting jurisdiction over deportation

crimes via Bangladesh. Through this ruling, state parties to the Rome Statute have now the option to refer the situation to the Court and thus speed-up the process leading to a formal ICC investigation.

We welcome the establishment of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar and are looking forward to its timely implementation. Since a joint state referral to the ICC would only focus on deportation-related crimes against the Rohingya, we believe an Accountability-Mechanism for Myanmar is clearly needed. The new Mechanism is complementary to an ICC investigation and will focus on the whole country and on all atrocities committed in Myanmar. It will be crucial to ensure accountability for the most serious crimes committed in Myanmar.

I thank you.