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41st session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive Dialogue with
the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
03 July 2019

Intervention by Mr Daniel Batliner,
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 continues to be 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 share the Special Rapporteur's strong concern about the recent shutdown of the internet in Rakhine State. This is another measure to hinder local human rights defenders and human rights institutions in reporting on the numerous grave violations committed in Rakhine State.

Mr. President

Given that the efforts undertaken by Myanmar are so far a clear indication of unwillingness to stop the on-going violations and ensure accountability, the international community has an obligation to pursue other options. As a matter of principle, we are of the opinion that an International Criminal Court referral discussion is urgently needed in the Security Council.

We welcome the establishment of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar as a Geneva-based mechanism and the recent appointment of its head. Basing the mechanism in Geneva allows an efficient and effective cooperation with the already established mechanism on Syria.

We encourage the Secretary General and the Office of the High Commissioner to undertake all necessary steps to ensure that the mechanism will be fully operational as soon as possible.

We also reiterate that 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. We call on Myanmar and all States to cooperate with the Mechanism and to share information and evidence in their possession about the atrocities committed in the Myanmar.

I thank you.