



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

Check against delivery

54th session of the Human Rights Council
Interactive dialogue on the report of the Office of the High Commissioner
on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
26 September 2023

**Delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi, Permanent Representative of Italy
to the United Nations in Geneva**

Mr. President,

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU.

Findings of the OHCHR report are undeniably appalling. The increase of brutal attacks against the civilian population, including airstrikes, mass killings during ground operations, the widespread and systematic burning of villages to deprive civilians of food and shelter, clearly demonstrates an unacceptable disregard for human life.

Italy reiterates the absolute condemnation of gross human rights violations and serious violations of international humanitarian law perpetrated by the Myanmar military. All acts of violence must end immediately, especially against innocent civilians, including persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities.

We remain extremely concerned by the human rights situation of the Rohingya community and strongly reject any attempt to instrumentalize relief operations. We call for the safe and voluntary return of the Rohingya refugees, as well as for the full and unimpeded humanitarian access to all persons in need.

We urge the release all those arbitrarily detained, the suspension of capital executions and the adoption of a moratorium of death penalty. Accountability and justice are imperative and the work of the Independent Investigative Mechanism is fundamental in this regard.

We express our solidarity for the people of Myanmar and call on the military to return the country to a path of democracy.

I thank you