**Human Rights Council – 39th Session**

**Interactive Dialogue with the Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar**

**18 September**

**Australian Statement**

Australia thanks the Fact-Finding Mission for its thorough, credible and impartial report.

We condemn in the strongest terms the atrocities committed in Rakhine, Shan and Kachin states.

Perpetrators must be held to account and Australia supports new international efforts for accountability and justice in Myanmar.

We urge Myanmar to ensure security for all communities in Rakhine State and create conditions conducive to the safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return of displaced Rohingya, including by addressing barriers to freedom of movement and providing a clear pathway to citizenship.

We urge, in this respect, the swift implementation of the tripartite MoU on repatriation, including full and effective access for UNDP and UNHCR. We also urge the full implementation of Advisory Commission recommendations.

We reiterate our call for the lifting of restrictions on humanitarian access in Rakhine, Shan and Kachin states.

Australia is deeply concerned by ongoing challenges to media freedom. A robust media is essential to democracy, and we call on the Myanmar Government to find a solution to the case of Wa Lone [*Wa Loan*] and Kyaw Soe Oo [*Jaw So Oo*] that leads to their release.

Australia recognises Myanmar is navigating complex political and developmental transitions. As a regional partner, we will continue to support Myanmar’s efforts toward full democracy and national peace and reconciliation, of which accountability will be an essential part.

Australia would be interested to hear the Fact-Finding Mission’s views on how the international community might best support unity and accountability in Myanmar.