**Human Rights Council – 45th session**

**Enhanced Interactive Dialogue: Report of the High Commissioner on the situation of the human rights in Myanmar, including of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities and on the implementation of recommendations by the independent international fact-finding mission**

**14 September 2020**

**Australian Statement**

We thank the High Commissioner for her update.

Australia remains deeply concerned by **ongoing conflict** in Rakhine and Chin States as well as other protracted crises in Myanmar, noting the disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable, including women, children and people with disabilities.

We continue to urge the protection of civilians, compliance with international law, unimpeded humanitarian access and a cessation of hostilities.

Australia welcomes the ceasefire extensions following the recent Union Peace Conference, and urges the inclusion of Rakhine and Chin States. We encourage all parties to engage in constructive dialogue to advance the national peace process.

We recognise the Myanmar Government’s efforts to combat **COVID-19**.

It is vital that accountability for human rights violations is realised for there to be any durable solution to the Rakhine crisis, and to bring justice for the Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar.

Australia acknowledges recent court martial proceedings as recommended by Myanmar’s Independent Commission of Enquiry, and urges transparency through the publication of charges, appeals, outcomes and, where relevant, sentencing.

Australia continues to urge Myanmar to engage with international accountability mechanisms, as they carry out their mandates.

**186 Words**