

ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

28TH ANNUAL MEETING

Draft Resolution Sponsored by: CANADA

ADDRESSING THE HUMANITARIAN PLIGHT OF THE ROHINGYA PEOPLE

The 28th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum:

Reaffirming relevant United Nations (UN) General Assembly Resolutions, including Resolutions 73/264, 72/248, 68/242, 67/233, 66/230, and relevant United Nations Human Rights Council Resolutions, including Resolutions 40/29, 39/2, 37/32, 34/22, 31/24, 29/21, 28/23, 25/26, 22/14, 19/21, on the *Situation of human rights in Myanmar*,

Taking into account the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), the *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* (1951), the *UN Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination* (1963), the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966) and its *First Optional Protocol* (1966);

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution 70/233 from December 2015, which recognizes the Rohingya ethnic minority of Myanmar and urges the Government of Myanmar to ensure equal access to full citizenship and related rights to the Rohingya, as defined in the report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State;

Affirming that humanitarian crises and crimes under international law are the legitimate concern of the national parliaments of the Asia-Pacific region's sovereign states;

Justly concerned with the ongoing humanitarian plight of the Rohingya people in Myanmar's Rakhine State and the displacement of approximately 745,000 people since August 2017, of whom approximately 85% are women and children, into Bangladesh;

Noting that it has been more than a decade since the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) adopted a resolution on the situation in Myanmar, in part regarding human rights violations in that country, at the 16th Annual Meeting in New Zealand in 2008;

Cognizant of the need for a regional and international response to the urgent and ongoing humanitarian and security crisis in and around Rakhine State;

Reiterating the right of all refugees and displaced persons to return home in safety and dignity, and in a voluntary and sustainable manner;

Underscoring that displaced people in Bangladesh and Myanmar are still in urgent need of basic necessities such as food assistance, water, sanitation services, health care, education, protection and shelter;

Aware that the 2019 Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis has not been fully funded;

Taking into account the reports of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Council, and noting the mission's findings and recommendations, including priority actions to be undertaken by the international community;

Welcoming the new Independent Investigative Mechanism on Myanmar, established by the United Nations Human Rights Council, which has the mandate to share relevant information, evidence and documentation with investigative, prosecutorial and judicial authorities to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings against the perpetrators of crimes under international law in Myanmar.

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Advance** implementation of the recommendations of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar;
2. **Urge** the military and civilian authorities in Myanmar to do everything in their power to protect all civilians and uphold human rights within Rakhine State;
3. **Call on** the military and civilian authorities in Myanmar to grant full and unhindered humanitarian access to affected persons and communities in Myanmar without fear of reprisals, intimidation or attack;
4. **Urge** relevant authorities, including APPF Member Countries, to assist humanitarian actors in providing humanitarian assistance to the forcibly displaced persons in Bangladesh, including the Rohingya refugees, and to all affected persons and communities within Rakhine State;
5. **Encourage** relevant authorities, including APPF Member Countries, more specifically to support the 2019 Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, which aims to deliver protection, provide lifesaving assistance and foster social cohesion;
6. **Emphasize** the importance of addressing the specific needs of women and girls in the delivery of humanitarian assistance, for example by prioritizing sexual and reproductive health services and psychosocial counselling for the survivors of sexual and gender-based violence;

7. **Call on** relevant authorities to ensure that displaced persons only return under voluntary, dignified, and sustainable conditions and when effective safety and protection mechanisms in Myanmar have been established;
8. **Work** to seek full accountability in relation to individuals suspected of being involved in crimes under international law, including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes; and
9. **Promote** all efforts to build inclusive, diverse, peaceful and stable societies.