

# ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

## 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Draft Resolution Sponsored by: CANADA

### ADDRESSING THE HUMANITARIAN PLIGHT OF THE ROHINGYA PEOPLE

**The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum:**

**Reaffirming** relevant United Nations General Assembly Resolutions, including Resolutions 73/51, 72/248, 68/242, 67/233, 66/230, and relevant United Nations Human Rights Council Resolutions, including Resolutions 39/22, 37/32, 34/22, 31/24, 29/21, 28/23, 25/26, 221/14, 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 *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, 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 the violation of international human rights and humanitarian law are the legitimate concern of the international community and Member States of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF),

**Justly concerned** with the ongoing humanitarian plight of the Rohingya people in Myanmar's Rakhine State and the displacement of more than 735,000 people since August 2017, of whom approximately 85% are women and children, into Bangladesh,

**Noting** that it has been a decade since the APPF adopted a resolution on the situation in Myanmar, in part regarding human rights violations in that country, at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in New Zealand in 2008,

**Cognizant** of the need for a concerted international response to the urgent and ongoing humanitarian and security crisis in and around Rakhine State,

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

**Welcoming** the September 2018 Report of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar prepared by human rights lawyers and consultants from Australia, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka and submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Council, and noting their recommendations that include in part priority actions to be undertaken by the international community, notably the United Nations Security Council, the UN General Assembly, the UN Human Rights Council, as well as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN),

## **RESOLVES TO:**

1. **Strongly condemn** the violent attacks perpetrated in Rakhine State by all parties, including the attacks attributed to the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army, the horrific campaign of violence and clearance operations by the Myanmar armed forces, as well as the assaults by civilians,
2. **Echo** the statement by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights that the gross violations of human rights against the Rohingya, including targeted killings and forced displacement, can be defined as ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,
3. **Welcome** the support granted to displaced populations from Rakhine State by neighbouring countries, particularly Bangladesh, which have taken in almost a million Rohingya refugees,
4. **Urge** the military and civilian authorities in Myanmar to do everything in their power to end the violence now, protect all civilians, ensure the full respect of human rights, and to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State,
5. **Urge** relevant authorities across the region, including Member States of the APPF, to cooperate in the delivery of humanitarian assistance, including that provided by humanitarian partners,
6. **Work** with international, regional and national partners to seek full accountability for perpetrators of genocide and human rights violations against the Rohingya,
7. **Call on** the Government of Myanmar to grant full, unimpeded humanitarian access to communities in need in Myanmar,
8. **Emphasize** the importance of addressing the specific needs of women and girls in the delivery of this assistance, for example by prioritizing services (including sexual and reproductive health services and psychosocial counselling for the survivors of sexual and gender-based violence) to those who are most vulnerable, such as pregnant and nursing women, single mothers and women-headed households,

9. **Ensure** that all returns of those displaced is voluntary, dignified, and sustainable, and done only when effective safety and protection mechanisms in Myanmar have been established,
10. **Call** on APPF Member States to promote all efforts to build inclusive, diverse and stable societies across the region.