INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

CASE CONCERNING APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

THE GAMBIA

v.

MYANMAR

PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

Annexes 90-174

20 JANUARY 2021

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Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

The Collective Voice of The Muslim World

Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

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Islamic Republic of AFGHANISTAN Member since 1969 National day 19/8



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Republic of ALBANIA Member since 1992 National day 28/11



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Republic of UGANDA Member since 1974 National day 9/10



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Islamic Republic of IRAN Member since 1969 National day 11/2



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Islamic Republic of PAKISTAN Member since 1969

National day 23/3



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Kingdom of BAHRAIN Member since 1972 National day 16/12



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BRUNEI-DARUSSALAM Member since 1984 National day 23/2



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People's Republic of BANGLADESH Member since 1974 National day 26/3



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Republic of BENIN Member since 1983 National day 1/8



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BURKINA-FASO (then Upper Volta) Member since 1974 National day 11/12



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Republic of TAJIKISTAN Member since 1992 National day 9/9



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Sultanate of OMAN Member since 1972 National day 18/11



Republic of GABON

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Member since 1974 National day 17/8



Republic of The Gambia Member since 1974 National day 18/2



Republic of GUYANA Member since 1998 National day 23/2



Republic of GUINEA Member since 1969 National day 2/10



Republic of GUINEA-BISSAU Member since 1974 National day 24/9



State of PALESTINE Member since 1969 National day 15/11



Union of The COMOROS Member since 1976 National day 6/7



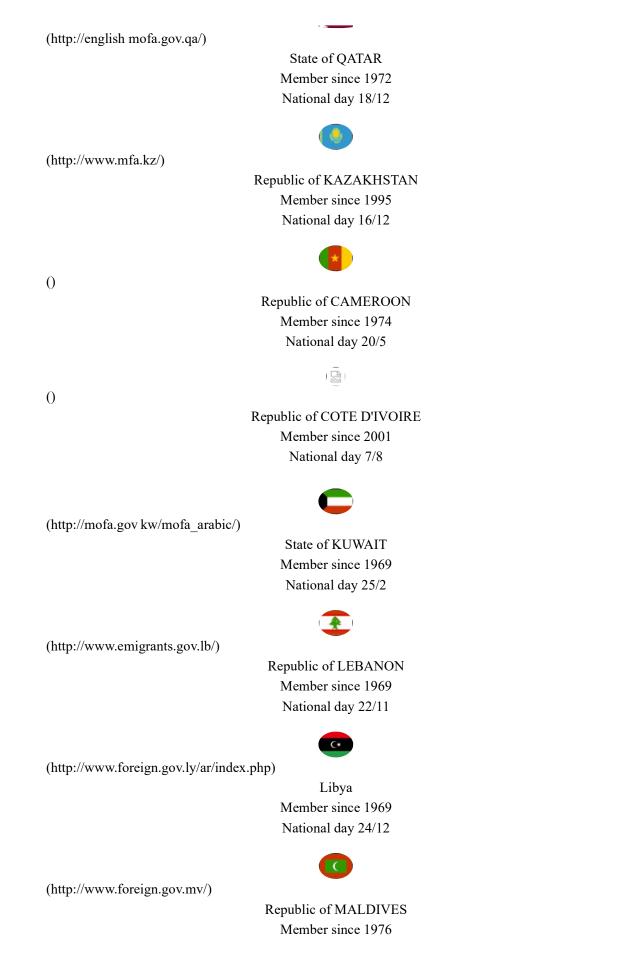
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National day 26/7



Republic of MALI Member since 1969 National day 22/9



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MALAYSIA Member since 1969 National day 31/8



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Kingdom of MOROCCO Member since 1969 National day 30/7



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Islamic Republic of MAURITANIA Member since 1969 National day 28/11

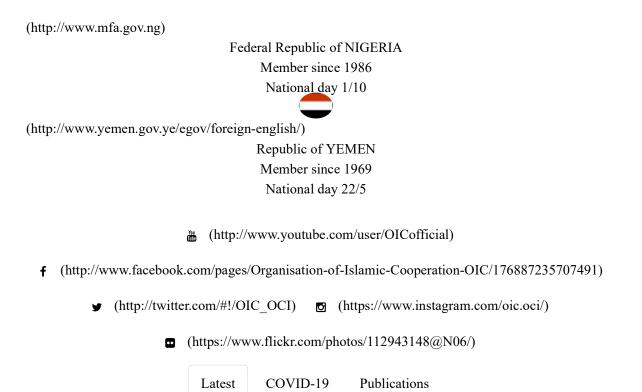


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OIC/CFM-45/2018/POL/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTIONS

ON

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

ADOPTED TO THE

45TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF ISLAMIC VALUES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND DEVELOPMENT)

DHAKA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

19-20 SHABAAN 1439H (5-6 MAY 2018)

Resolution No. 59/45-POL

ON

The Establishment of an OIC Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingyas

The Forty Fifth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, (Session of Islamic Values for Sustainable Peace, Solidarity and Development), held in Dhaka, People's Republic of Bangladesh, from 19-20 Sha'ban 1439 H (5-6 May 2018),

Guided by the principle and objectives of the charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

Referring to the OIC Resolution number 4/45-MM on the situation of the Muslim community in Myanmar and to the deliberations in the Special Brainstorming Session of the 45th CFM on the Humanitarian challenges of the OIC countries including those relating to the Rohingyas;

Recognizing the continuous sufferings of the Rohingyas, the most persecuted minorities of the world, who have been facing ethnic cleansing and forced expulsions from their ancestral homeland in the Rakhine State of Myanmar;

Expressing grave concern about recurrent forced and mass evictions of the Rohingya Minorities from the Rakhine state of Myanmar;

Alarmed by the repeated influx of Rohingyas to Bangladesh over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingas including the recently arrived 700,000 in aftermath of atrocities committed by the Myanmar authorities'

Concerned that the Rohingyas taking shelter in Bangladesh had been victims of gross and systematic violations of human rights and atrocity crimes,

Recognizing that ensuring accountability and justice is the most crucial step towards preventing genocide and other mass atrocity crimes,

Also recognizing the need for making the perpetrators of human rights violations against Rogingyas accountable for their crimes through an independent, impartial and neutral mechanism,

The OIC member states decide to:

- 1. Establish a 10-member ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingya (MCCAR) including the OIC Secretariat, to be chaired by the Gambia;
- 2. The ad hoc committee will,
 - a. Engage to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles;
 - b. Assist in information gathering and evidence collection for accountability purposes
 - c. Mobilize and coordinate international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingys in Myanmar
 - d. Collaborate with the international bodies, such as, office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Security Council, and other international and regional mechanisms.

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Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

The Collective Voice of The Muslim World

Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

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OIC Strategy for the Empowerment of the Marriage & Family Institution 2020-2025 ... (../upload/departments/family/oic_family_strategy_2020_2025_en.pdf)

OIC Convenes Coordination Meeting for Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya

Date: 22/01/2019

A coordination meeting for the Members of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya, was convened in the General Secretariat on the sidelines of the Senior Officials Meeting Preparatory to the 46th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The meeting, Chaired by The Gambia, discussed the preparations and agenda of the inaugural session of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee due to be held in Banjul, The Gambia on 10 February 2019.

The Members of the Committee reiterated their support for Bangladesh, which has been

inundated by the repeated influx over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingya, including the recently arrived 700,000 refugees in aftermath of atrocities committed by the Myanmar authorities.

The Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee was established by Resolution No.59/45 adopted by the 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Dhaka, 5-6 May 2018. The tasks of the Committee include engaging to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles; assisting in information gathering and evidence collection for accountability purposes; as well as mobilizing and coordinating international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya in Myanmar.

Other Press

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

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OIC/CFM-46/2019/POL/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTIONS

ΟN

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

ADOPTED BY THE

46TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(SESSION OF FIFTY YEARS OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION: ROADMAP FOR PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT)

ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

1-2 MARCH 2019 24-25 JUMADAH AL-THANI 1440 H

Resolution No. 60/46-POL On

The Establishment of an OIC Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingyas

The Forty- Sixth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, (Session: 50 Years Of Islamic Cooperation: Roadmap For Prosperity And Development), held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates 24-25 Jumadah Al-Thani 1440 H (1-2 March 2019),

Guided by the principle and objectives of the charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

Referring to the OIC Resolution number 4/45-MM on the situation of the Muslim community in Myanmar and to the deliberations in the Special Brainstorming Session of the 45th CFM on the Humanitarian challenges of the OIC countries including those relating to the Rohingyas;

Recognizing the continuous sufferings of the Rohingyas, the most persecuted minorities of the world, who have been facing ethnic cleansing and forced expulsions from their ancestral homeland in the Rakhine State of Myanmar;

Expressing grave concern about recurrent forced and mass evictions of the Rohingya Minorities from the Rakhine state of Myanmar;

Alarmed by the repeated influx of Rohingyas to Bangladesh over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingas including the recently arrived 700,000 in aftermath of atrocities committed by the Myanmar authorities'

Concerned that the Rohingyas taking shelter in Bangladesh had been victims of gross and systematic violations of human rights and atrocity crimes,

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- c. Mobilize and coordinate international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingys in Myanmar
- d. Collaborate with the international bodies, such as, office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Security Council, and other international and regional mechanisms.

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OIC/CFM-46/2019/POL/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTIONS

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Concerned that the Rohingyas taking shelter in Bangladesh had been victims of gross and systematic violations of human rights and atrocity crimes,

Recognizing that ensuring accountability and justice is the most crucial step towards preventing genocide and other mass atrocity crimes,

Also recognizing the need for making the perpetrators of human rights violations against Rogingyas accountable for their crimes through an independent, impartial and neutral mechanism,

Noting the contributions of various OIC bodies to the broader understanding of the crimes against the Rohingya, including the work of the OIC groups in New York and Geneva, the reporting of OIC IPHRC, and the efforts of the OIC Secretariat,

Recalling OIC Resolution no. 59/45-POL on the Establishment of an OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingyas,

Welcoming the inaugural meeting of the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya, held in Banjul, Republic of the Gambia, on 10 February 2019, and **welcoming also** the Ad Hoc Committee's plan of action as reflected in the report of the inaugural meeting,

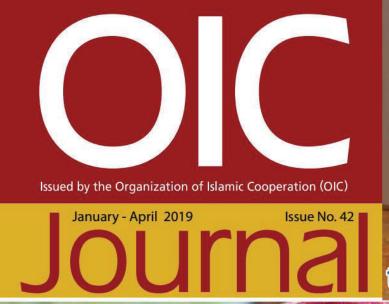
The OIC Member States decide to:

- 1. Endorse the Ad Hoc Committee's plan of action to engage in international legal measures to fulfill the Ad Hoc Committee's mandate;
- 2. Call upon member states to contribute voluntarily to the budget of the plan of action and to assist the General Secretariat to allocate other resources needed to implement the plan of action.
- 3. Decide to remain seized of this matter.

OIC, "Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya Meets in Gambia", *OIC Journal*, No. 42, January-April 2019, p. 24

Available at:

https://issuu.com/oic-journal/docs/oic journal issue 42 en



The Foreign Ministers Draw the Roadmap for Development

> Al-Othaimeen: The Attack in New Zealand Shocked the World



Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya Meets in Gambia

The Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya was held in Banjul, The Gambia on 10 February 2019.

During the meeting the Members of the Committee expressed that Myanmar must abide by international law, cease persecution of Rohingya and allow unimpeded access for the delivery of the humanitarian aid to the affected communities in Rakhine state. The Members also underscored that Myanmar has the primary responsibility to take actions against the perpetrators of the crimes under international law committed against the Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar, especially in Rakhine State; and that if it is unable or unwilling to undertake this responsibility, Myanmar should accept an international judicial mechanism process. The Members of the Committee reiterated their support for Bangladesh, which has been inundated by the repeated influx over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingya, including the recently arrived 700,000 refugees in aftermath of atrocities committed by the Myanmar authorities. It was acknowledged that the Rohingya issue has been of great concern to Bangladesh and the government of Shaikh Hasina has made tremendous efforts to accommodate and provide for the refugees.

In reviewing the plight of the Rohingya, it was agreed that sustained international pressure is required to ensure the government of Myanmar fulfills its obligations under international law to pursue accountability for the victims. It was therefore decided, by consensus, that the Ad Hoc Committee's would pursue legal action against Myanmar before the International Court of Justice. This course of action was subsequently approved by the 46th Session OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), with the adoption of Resolution No. 61/46 in Abu Dhabi, 1-2 March 2019.

The Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee was established by Resolution No.59/45 adopted by the 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Dhaka, 5-6 May 2018. The tasks of the Committee include engaging to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles; assisting in information gathering and evidence collection for accountability purposes; as well as mobilizing and coordinating international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya in Myanmar.

OIC Secretary General Receives the Health Minister of Maldives

The Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC), H.E. Dr. Yousef A. Othaimeen, received the Health Minister of the Republic of Maldives H.E. Mr. Abdulla Ameen and his accompanying delegation, at the OIC Headquarters in Jeddah on 5 March 2019.

H.E. Mr. Abdulla Ameen expressed his thanks and appreciation for the role the OIC is playing in promoting human development in the OIC Member States in general and the Republic of Maldives in particular. He underlined the importance of the partnership between his country and the OIC and



expressed hope to strengthen it further. He briefed the Secretary General about the status of health care in Maldives and indicated that his country has been implementing the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) whereby

Government provides healthcare services to all its citizens.

The Secretary General reiterated OIC's commitment to support its Member States in every way possible. He stated that it was OIC's moral responsibility to play a leading role in such areas as vaccination campaigns in underserved communities of the OIC and to help Member States in the production of affordable, safe and quality medicines and vaccines. The two sides agreed to continue their engagement with the aim of fostering the wellbeing of the people in the OIC Member States.

24 OIC Journal January - April 2019

www.oic-oci.org

OIC, De Communiqué final de la Quatorzième Session de la Conférence Islamique au Sommet, 31 May 2019 [extract]*

Available at:

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https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=4499&refID=1251

The English version of this document is at MG, vol. VII, Annex 205.



Organisation de la Coopération Islamique

OIC/14-SUM/2019/FC

DE COMMUNIQUE FINAL			
DE LA			
QUATORZIEME SESSION DE LA CONFERENCE ISLAMIQUE AU SOMMET			
(Sommet de Makkah : main dans la main vers l'avenir)			
Makkah Al-Mukarammah, Royaume d'Arabie Saoudite			
26 Ramadan 1440 H (31 mai 2019)			

1

- 42- La Conférence a réaffirmé sa solidarité avec le Gouvernement et le peuple de Bosnie-Herzégovine et a appelé les dirigeants politiques de Bosnie-Herzégovine à joindre leurs efforts pour diligenter la mise en œuvre du processus de réforme afin de bâtir un avenir meilleur pour la Bosnie-Herzégovine et son peuple. La Conférence a également invité tous les États Membres à intensifier leur coopération avec la Bosnie-Herzégovine, et en particulier leurs relations économiques avec ce pays, afin de promouvoir le bien-être et la prospérité de son peuple.
- 43- La Conférence a réaffirmé le soutien et la coopération de l'Organisation de la coopération islamique avec le Kosovo et son peuple et a invité les États membres à envisager de reconnaitre l'indépendance du Kosovo sur la base de leur droit libre et souverain et de leurs législations nationales. La Conférence a également invité les États membres à soutenir le Kosovo dans les diverses instances internationales.
- 44- La Conférence a réitéré son soutien continu aux efforts, aux initiatives et aux bons offices de l'Organisation de la coopération islamique (OCI) en vue de contribuer à la recherche de solutions justes et équitables au problème des minorités et communautés musulmanes dans les pays non membres. Elle a salué le rôle de l'OCI dans la protection des droits et la préservation de l'identité, de la culture et de la dignité desdites communautés, en particulier au Myanmar, au sud des Philippines et au sud de la Thaïlande, ainsi qu'en Europe, en respectant pleinement la souveraineté des pays dans lesquels elles vivent.
- 45- La Conférence a déploré la situation inhumaine de la minorité musulmane Rohingya et a appelé à une action urgente pour mettre un terme à la violence et à toutes les pratiques barbares visant cette minorité, et lui accorder tous ses droits sans discrimination ni profilage ethnique. La Conférence a insisté sur le fait que le gouvernement du Myanmar a l'entière responsabilité de protéger ses citoyens et a réaffirmé la nécessité de mettre immédiatement un terme à l'utilisation de la force militaire dans l'État de Rakhine.
- 46- La Conférence a exhorté le Gouvernement du Myanmar à prendre des mesures concrètes et assorties de délais précis pour rétablir la citoyenneté des Rohingya déplacées et des membres de la communauté minoritaire musulmane Rohingya déplacés de force, privés de leur nationalité pour leur permettre de jouir de tous les droits qui y sont associés, notamment le droit à la citoyenneté à part entière, et pour permettre et faciliter le retour de tous les Rohingya déplacés et réfugiés dans la sécurité et la dignité, y compris ceux qui ont été contraints à se réfugier au Bangladesh.
- 47- La Conférence a souligné l'importance de mener des enquêtes internationales indépendantes et transparentes sur les violations des droits de l'homme au Myanmar, y compris l'agression sexuelle et la violence à l'encontre des enfants, et de poursuivre tous les responsables de ces atrocités afin de rendre justice aux victimes. La Conférence a confirmé son soutien au Comité ministériel ad hoc chargé d'examiner les violations des droits humains perpétrées contre les musulmans Rohingyas au Myanmar en recourant aux instruments juridiques internationaux pour amener les auteurs des crimes commis contre les Rohingyas à rendre compte de leurs actes. À cet égard, la Conférence a exhorté le Comité ministériel ad hoc dirigé par la Gambie à prendre des mesures immédiates pour engager la procédure nécessaire devant la Cour internationale

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de Justice au nom de l'OCI. La Conférence a également appelé à garantir un accès libre et sans restriction à l'aide humanitaire et à permettre aux personnes et aux communautés touchées d'avoir pleinement accès à cette aide humanitaire.

- 48- La Conférence a réitéré sa profonde considération à la population du Bangladesh et au gouvernement de SE la Première ministre Sheikh Hasina, pour avoir ouvert leurs cœurs et leurs frontières, donné asile sur le sol du Bangladesh aux Rohingya déplacés de force et soutenu de manière constante les Rohingya dépossédés de leurs biens et en détresse malgré les ressources limitées du Bangladesh. La Conférence a exhorté les États membres à se montrer généreux pour partager le fardeau croissant assumé par le Bangladesh.
- 49- La Conférence a loué les divers mécanismes mis en place au niveau international pour améliorer la situation dans l'Etat de Rakhine, au Myanmar ; et réitéré son soutien aux mécanismes régionaux, notamment le Centre de coordination de l'aide humanitaire dans la gestion des catastrophes de l'ASEAN (AHA Centre), en matière d'évaluation des besoins nécessaires pour identifier les domaines de coopération afin d'aménager les conditions propices au retour sûr, volontaire et digne des réfugiés.
- 50- La Conférence s'est félicitée de l'investiture de l'Autorité de transition de la région autonome de Bangsamoro, considérée comme une étape positive sur la voie de la paix et de la stabilité dans le sud des Philippines. La Conférence a également invité le Gouvernement de la République des Philippines à exécuter tous les programmes convenus au cours de la période de mise en œuvre, y compris les programmes de développement économique et social au Bangsamoro.
- 51- La Conférence a exhorté les dirigeants du Front national de libération Moro et du Front Moro islamique de libération à renforcer la coordination et la coopération entre les deux fronts et à coopérer avec les autres parties concernées pour resserrer les rangs, renforcer et consolider la coopération et l'unité dans leur lutte pacifique pour la cause commune afin d'assurer une paix globale dans le sud des Philippines.
- 52- La Conférence a invité instamment les États Membres de l'OCI, les organes subsidiaires, les institutions spécialisées et les institutions affiliées à augmenter le volume de leur aide médicale, humanitaire, économique, sociale, éducative et technique pour développer la région autonome Bangsamoro en Mindanao musulmane (ARMM), en vue d'accélérer le développement socioéconomique. A cet égard, elle a demandé au Gouvernement des philippines de faciliter une délégation conjointe du Secrétariat général, des Etats membres et des représentants de la Banque Islamique de Développement, à visiter la région pour développer un mécanisme viable en vue de fournir l'assistance au développement nécessaire et le financement de la région du Bangsamoro.
- 53- La Conférence s'est félicitée des efforts sincères déployés par le gouvernement thaïlandais pour améliorer la situation de la communauté musulmane ; a apprécié l'invitation adressée, en février 2018, à la délégation de l'OCI, en vue de prendre connaissance de visu des progrès engrangés par la communauté musulmane dans le

OIC, Report of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya, OIC/ACM/AD-HOC ACCOUNTABILITY/REPORT-2019/FINAL, 25 September 2019

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=4519&refID=1255

French version available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=4545&refID=1255



OIC/ACM/AD-HOC ACCOUNTABILITY/REPORT-2019/FINAL

REPORT

OF THE

AD HOC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE ROHINGYA

HELD ON THE SIDELINES OF THE

ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING

NEW YORK, USA

25 SEPTEMBER 2019

Report of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee

on Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya

25 September 2019, New York

- 1. The Members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya, met on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting on 25 September 2019 in New York under the Chairmanship of The Minister of Justice of The Gambia.
- 2. The Meeting expressed serious concern about the deteriorating security, human rights and humanitarian situation in Rakhine State, and the continued serious violations and abuses of human rights of Rohingya Muslim;
- **3.** The Meeting acknowledged that the work of Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee and its effective functioning are of great importance, given the urgent need for the restoration of the rights of the Rohingya. The Meeting commended the efforts of The Gambia, as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee, to ensure the Myanmar Government would fully comply with international human rights standards;
- **4.** The Meeting called upon all Member States to support the work of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee to pursue justice and accountability for the Rohingya people;
- 5. The Meeting reiterated that the decision to pursue a legal case in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) was endorsed by Resolutions at the 46th CFM in Abu Dhabi and by the Final Declaration of the 14th OIC Heads of State Summit in Makkah Al Mukarramah;
- 6. The Meeting also reiterated the persistent calls of the OIC to its Member States and the international community to use effective political and economic measures bring about Myanmar's compliance with its international obligations;
- 7. The Meeting was briefed by The Gambia on the legal case to be presented to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in line with Council of Foreign Ministers and Summit decisions;
- **8.** The Meeting acknowledged The Gambia's prerogative to select a legal firm to pursue the case in the ICJ and took note of The Gambia's choice of the legal firm;
- **9.** The Meeting acknowledged the substantial costs required to proceed with the legal case and called upon all OIC Member States to provide assistance on a voluntary basis, in accordance with the principles of burden-sharing and shared responsibility, and in the spirit of Islamic solidarity;
- **10.** The Meeting invited the Chair of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee and the OIC Secretary General to coordinate contacts with Member States and other international partners for raising funds for the legal case at the ICJ and to supervise those funds and any disbursements thereof.
- 11. The Meeting requested the Chair of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee to provide comprehensive briefing, including on the financial and legal process, to the Committee and submit a comprehensive report to the next meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers;

- **12.** The Meeting recommended adding an item on pledges for the legal case undertaken by The Gambia to the agenda of the 47th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.
- **13.** The Meeting also requested the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to provide necessary assistance to Ad Hoc Committee in pursuing its mandate and with the legal case;
- 14. The Meeting urged the Members of the OIC Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya to continue with its mandate to carry out the tasks of ensuring accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles; Assisting in information gathering and evidence collection for accountability purposes; Mobilizing and coordinating international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya in Myanmar;
- **15.** The Meeting called upon OIC Member States and the international community to continue their efforts to ensure the return of all Myanmar refugees displaced from their homes in a safe, dignified and voluntary basis and intensify their efforts in international fora to restore the nationality and citizenship rights of Rohingya as well as protecting the rights of Muslim minorities in Myanmar.
- 16. This report is submitted to the Annual Coordination Meeting for its information.

OIC, Press Release, "OIC Welcomes first hearing of Legal Case on accountability for crimes against Rohingya", 24 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=22925&t_ref=13830&lan=en

French version available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=22926&ref=13830&lan=fr



Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

The Collective Voice of The Muslim World

Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

(../home/?lan=en)

• OIC Strategy for the Empowerment of the Marriage & Family Institution 2020-2025 ... (../upload/departments/family/oic_family_strategy_2020_2025_en.pdf)

OIC Welcomes first hearing of Legal Case on accountability for crimes against Rohingya

Date: 24/11/2019

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) welcomes the decision by the International Court of Justice (ICJ), The Hague, to conduct its first hearing, from 10-12 December 2019, in the case against the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for its brutal actions against the Rohingya Muslim minority.

The case was filed by the Republic of The Gambia, as Chair of the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya, for violations by Myanmar of the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime

of Genocide.

As part of the lawsuit, the ICJ is requested to impose Provisional Measures, as a matter of extreme urgency, to protect the Rohingya against further harm by ordering Myanmar to stop all of its genocidal conduct immediately.

Genocide is a crime under international law, as well as international criminal law and all States have an obligation to prevent, to punish, and to not commit genocide.

The Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee was established at the 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 5-6 May 2018. The Gambia, as Chair of this Committee was tasked with submitting the case to the ICJ, following a decision by the OIC Heads of State, during the 14th Islamic Summit Conference, 31 May 2019 in Makkah AlMukarramah.

The OIC calls on the international community to support this legal effort for justice and accountability for the Rohingya people and to engage in all diplomatic and political efforts to stop Myanmar from perpetrating violence against this persecuted minority.

Other Press

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

(http://www.youtube.com/user/OICofficial)

f (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Organisation-of-Islamic-Cooperation-

OIC/176887235707491)

y (http://twitter.com/#!/OIC_OCI) ☑ (https://www.instagram.com/oic.oci/)

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/112943148@N06/)

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OIC, Press Release, "L'OCI se félicite de la première audience de l'affaire judiciaire sur la responsabilité pour les crimes contre Rohingya", 24 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=22926&t_ref=13830&lan=fr



Organisation de la Coopération Islamique

La Voix Collective du Monde Musulman

Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

(../home/?lan=fr)

Stratégie de l'OCI pour l'Autonomisation de l'Institution du Mariage et de la Famille 2020-2025 ... (../upload/departments/family/oic_family_strategy_2020_2025_fr.pdf)

L'OCI se félicite de la première audience de l'affaire judiciaire sur la responsabilité pour les crimes contre Rohingya

Date: 24/11/2019

Le Secrétariat général de l'Organisation de la coopération islamique (OCI) se félicite de la décision de la Cour internationale de justice (CIJ) de La Haye de tenir sa première audience du 10 au 12 décembre 2019 dans l'affaire contre la République de l'Union du Myanmar pour ses actions brutales contre la minorité musulmane Rohingya.

La République de Gambie, en sa qualité de président du Comité ministériel spécial de l'OCI sur la responsabilité en matière de violations des droits de l'homme contre les Rohingya, a porté plainte pour violation par le Myanmar de la Convention de 1948 pour la prévention et la répression du crime de génocide.

Dans le cadre de l'action en justice, la CIJ est invitée à imposer des mesures provisoires extrêmement urgentes afin de protéger les Rohingyas contre de nouveaux dommages en ordonnant au Myanmar de mettre immédiatement un terme à son comportement génocidaire.

Le génocide est un crime au regard du droit international, ainsi que du droit pénal international, et tous les États ont l'obligation de prévenir, de punir et de ne pas commettre de génocide.

Le Comité ministériel ad hoc a été établi lors de la 45ème session du Conseil des ministres des Affaires étrangères de l'OCI à Dhaka, au Bangladesh, les 5 et 6 mai 2018. La Gambie, en tant que présidente de ce comité, avait pour tâche de soumettre l'affaire à la CIJ, à la suite d'une décision de la Chefs d'Etat de l'OCI, lors de la 14ème Conférence au sommet islamique, le 31 mai 2019 à Makkah Al-Mukarramah.

L'OCI appelle la communauté internationale à soutenir cet effort juridique en faveur de la justice et de la responsabilité du peuple Rohingya et à s'engager dans tous les efforts diplomatiques et politiques visant à empêcher le Myanmar de commettre des actes de violence contre cette minorité persécutée.

Autre Presse

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

(http://www.youtube.com/user/OICofficial)

f (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Organisation-of-Islamic-Cooperation-

OIC/176887235707491)

y (http://twitter.com/#!/OIC_OCI) ☑ (https://www.instagram.com/oic.oci/)

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/112943148@N06/)

Actualité COVID-19

D-19 Publications

Efforts de l'Organisation de la Coopération Islamique, tous organes inclus, au service des causes islamiques, et dans la lutte contre la pandémie du nouveau coronavirus (COVID-19)

OIC, Press Release, "OIC General Secretariat Welcomes UNGA Resolution Condemning Abuses against Rohingya", 29 December 2019

Available at: https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=23064&t_ref=13883&lan=en French version available at: https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=23067&t_ref=13883&lan=fr



Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

The Collective Voice of The Muslim World

Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

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• OIC Strategy for the Empowerment of the Marriage & Family Institution 2020-2025 ... (../upload/departments/family/oic_family_strategy_2020_2025_en.pdf)

OIC General Secretariat Welcomes UNGA Resolution Condemning Abuses against Rohingya

Date: 29/12/2019

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) welcomes the United Nations General Assembly resolution strongly condemning rights abuses against Rohingya Muslims and other minority groups in Myanmar.

This resolution follows from the report on 22 October 2019 of the UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) on Myanmar. The report declares that Myanmar is failing in its obligations under the Genocide Convention to prevent, investigate and enact effective legislation criminalising and punishing genocide. It is to be recalled that the Republic of The Gambia, as Chair of the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya, has filed a legal case in the International Court of Justice against Myanmar for violating its obligations under the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

The OIC reiterates its call on the international community to extend its support to the legal effort for justice and accountability for the Rohingya people and to redouble all diplomatic and political efforts to put an end to violence and persecution against the Rohingya minority.

Other Press

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

(http://www.youtube.com/user/OICofficial)

- **f** (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Organisation-of-Islamic-Cooperation-OIC/176887235707491)
- (http://twitter.com/#!/OIC_OCI) 🖸 (https://www.instagram.com/oic.oci/)

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/112943148@N06/)

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Efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

OIC, Press Release, "OIC welcomes ICJ decision ordering Myanmar to stop genocide against Rohingya", 23 January 2020

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t id=23137&t ref=13911&lan=en

French version available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=23145&t_ref=13911&lan=fr

OIC welcomes ICJ decision ordering Myanma... OIC welcomes ICJ decision ordering Myanma... https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=23137&t_...



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• OIC Strategy for the Empowerment of the Marriage & Family Institution 2020-2025 ... (../upload/departments/family/oic_family_strategy_2020_2025_en.pdf)

OIC welcomes ICJ decision ordering Myanmar to stop genocide against Rohingya

Date: 23/01/2020

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) welcomes the unanimous decision taken today 23 January 2020 by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague to order provisional measures to prevent further acts of genocide against the Rohingya from occurring in Myanmar.

The case, by The Gambia, as Chair of the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya, included a request for provisional measures to protect the Rohingya minority from further genocidal actions by Myanmar during the pendency of the case against Myanmar. In its decision the Court unanimously ordered Myanmar to take all measures to prevent the commission of all acts of genocide against the Rohingya, including killings, physical abuse, causing serious bodily or mental harm, burning of homes and villages, destruction of lands and livestock and inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction, and measures to prevent births. Myanmar has also been ordered to preserve all evidence related to the allegations of the crime of genocide.

Myanmar is further ordered by the Court to present a report after four months, and then every six months thereafter, on its compliance with the Order.

The OIC calls upon Myanmar to fully comply with the Order of the Court. It urges the international community to extend further support to the legal efforts for justice and accountability for the Rohingya people and to redouble all diplomatic and political endeavors to ensure the safety and protection of the Rohingya Muslim minority.

Other Press

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

(http://www.youtube.com/user/OICofficial)

f (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Organisation-of-Islamic-Cooperation-

OIC/176887235707491)

(http://twitter.com/#!/OIC_OCI) 🖸 (https://www.instagram.com/oic.oci/)

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/112943148@N06/)

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OIC, Press Release, "OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against Rohingya holds consultative meeting in Riyadh", 30 September 2020

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=24762&t_ref=15141&lan=en

French version available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=24764&t_ref=15141&lan=fr

1/3/2021 OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against Rohingya holds consultative meeting in Riy...



Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

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Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

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OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against Rohingya holds consultative meeting in Riyadh

Date: 30/09/2020



The OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya held a consultative meeting at the level of Permanent Representatives in Riyadh on 30 September 2020.

During the meeting, the Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, reviewed the practical positive steps taken by the OIC to sensitize the international community of the plight of the Rohingya and the OIC's

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1/3/2021 OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against Rohingya holds consultative meeting in Riy...

strong commitment to the principles of justice and accountability for human rights violations committed against the Rohingya, particularly within the framework of the legal case filed with the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Myanmar.

The Secretary-General also commended the states that made financial contributions to support the costs of the case, thanking them for their prompt response. He further urged the other Member States to support this case for human rights, which was applauded and welcomed by the international community. During the meeting, the participants exchanged views on the development of the case and ways to support it.

Other Press

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

(http://www.youtube.com/user/OICofficial)

- f (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Organisation-of-Islamic-Cooperation-OIC/176887235707491)
- y (http://twitter.com/#!/OIC_OCI) ₪ (https://www.instagram.com/oic.oci/)

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/112943148@N06/)

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OIC, Tweet (@OIC_OCI), 30 September 2020

Available at:

https://twitter.com/OIC OCI/status/1311247188425609216

1/8/2021

Annex 103

OIC on Twitter: "During the meeting, the Secretary-General, Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen, reviewed the positive & amp; tangible steps tak...



Replying to @OIC_OCI

During the meeting, the Secretary-General, Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen, reviewed the positive & tangible steps taken by the organization to raise awareness of the international community about the plight of the #Rohingya, especially by instituting a case against #Myanmar at the ICJ.





https://twitter.com/OIC_OCI/status/1311247188425609216

OIC, Press Release, "OIC Secretary General Thanks the ISF for its Support in Financing the Rohingya Case at the ICJ", 7 October 2020

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t id=24796&t ref=15154&lan=en





Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

The Collective Voice of The Muslim World

Ahad, 20 Jumadal Ula 1442 AH

(../home/?lan=en)

OIC Strategy for the Empowerment of the Marriage & Family Institution 2020-2025 ... (../upload/departments/family/oic_family_strategy_2020_2025_en.pdf)

OIC Secretary General Thanks the ISF for its Support in Financing the Rohingya Case at the ICJ

Date: 07/10/2020



Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, urged Member States to support the fund set up by the OIC General Secretariat in favor of supporting the court case of accountability for the human rights violations against the Rohingya minority, which was filed with the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

1/3/2021

Annex 104

OIC Secretary General Thanks the ISF for its Support in Financing the Rohingya Case at the ICJ

The Secretary-General made the remark on Wednesday, October 7, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Jeddah, during the ceremony marking the financial grant extended by the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF), which was deposited in the OIC account in response to the Secretary General's appeal made during the consultative meeting of the Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on the court case.

Dr. Al-Othaimeen expressed his thanks to the President of the ISF Permanent Council , Ambassador Nasser bin Abdullah Al Zuaabi, and the ISF Executive Director, Mr. Ibrahim Al-Khuzim, for the prompt response. He also thanked the host country, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Chair of the Islamic Summit, for the limitless support and facilities it provides for the work of the OIC and its Organs in advocating the causes of the Islamic world. The Secretary General also thanked the Republic of Bangladesh for its support and care for the Rohingya refugees on its territory. He also hailed the Member States' continuous support for this cause.

Other Press

No press releases assigned to this case yet.

(http://www.youtube.com/user/OICofficial)

f (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Organisation-of-Islamic-Cooperation-OIC/176887235707491)

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/112943148@N06/)

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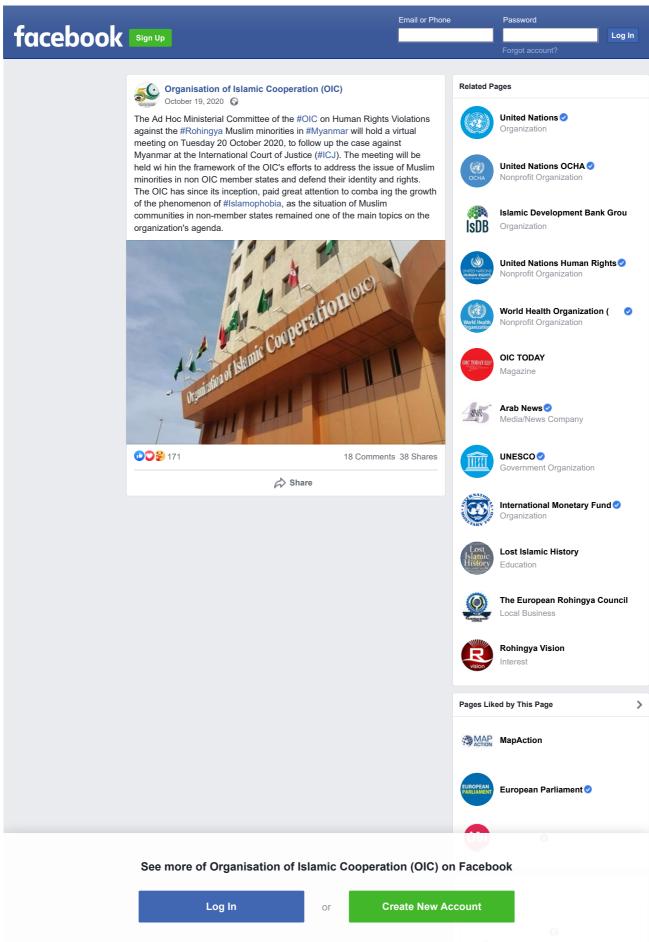
https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=24796&t_ref=15154&lan=en

OIC, Statement on OIC Facebook account, 19 October 2020

Available at:

https://www.facebook.com/oicinenglish/posts/3549215791807935

Annex 105 The Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee of the... - Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) | Facebook



1/2

OIC Res. No. 59/47-POL, On the Work of the OIC Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingyas, November 2020

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=6626&refID=3255

French version available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=6620&refID=3255



OIC/CFM-47/2020/POL/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTIONS

ON

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

ADOPTED BY THE

47TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

(Session of United against Terrorism for Peace and Development)

NIAMEY, REPUBLIC OF NIGER 27-28 NOVEMBER 2020 (12-13 RABI AL THANI 1442H)

RESOLUTION NO. 59/47-POL ON THE WORK OF THE OIC AD HOC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE ROHINGYAS

The Forty-Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (United Against Terrorism for Peace and Development) held in Niamey, Republic of Niger, on 27-28 November 2020 (12-13 Rabi al Thani 1442H).

Guided by the principle and objectives of the charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

Referring to the OIC Resolution number 4/45-MM on the situation of the Muslim community in Myanmar and to the deliberations in the Special Brainstorming Session of the 45th CFM on the Humanitarian challenges of the OIC countries including those relating to the Rohingyas;

Recognizing the continuous sufferings of the Rohingyas, the most persecuted minorities of the world, who have been facing ethnic cleansing and forced expulsions from their ancestral homeland in the Rakhine State of Myanmar;

Expressing grave concern about recurrent forced and mass evictions of the Rohingya Minorities from the Rakhine state of Myanmar;

Alarmed by the repeated influx of Rohingyas to Bangladesh over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingyas including the recently arrived 720,000 in aftermath of atrocities committed by the Myanmar authorities'

Concerned that the Rohingyas taking shelter in Bangladesh had been victims of gross and systematic violations of human rights and atrocity crimes,

Recognizing that ensuring accountability and justice is the most crucial step towards preventing genocide and other mass atrocity crimes,

Also recognizing the need for making the perpetrators of human rights violations against Rohingyas accountable for their crimes through an independent, impartial and neutral mechanism,

Commending the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee, Chaired by The Gambia to pursue the case of genocide and human rights violations against the Rohingya at the International Court of Justice

Highly commending the upright stance of HE Minister of Justice of The Gambia at the proceedings at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, in defense of the Rohingya people.

Welcoming the historic and unanimous decision of the International Court of Justice on The Gambia's Request for Provisional Measures to prevent further acts of genocide against the Rohingya in Myanmar, its impact under international law and implications for the Rohingya communities in both Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The OIC member states decide to:

1- **Continue to** support the 10-member Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights violations against the Rohingya (MCCAR) including the OIC Secretariat, and IPHRC to be chaired by the Gambia;

- 2- **Continue** to support the Ad Hoc Committee's plan of action to engage in international legal measures including at the ICJ to fulfill the Ad Hoc Committee's mandate
- 3- **Call upon** member states to contribute voluntarily to the budget of the plan of action and to assist the general secretariat to allocate other resources needed to implement the plan of action
- 4- *Welcome* the setting up of an Account by the OIC Secretariat to receive voluntary contributions to support the proceedings of the Case at the ICJ,
- 5- **Invite** the Secretary General to arrange pledging sessions of the Member States during the upcoming CFM in Niger (3-4 April 2020) as well as during the annual coordination meeting on the sidelines of the upcoming General Assembly High-Level Meeting in September 2020 in New York.
- 6- Urge all Member States to contribute in this Resource Mobilization effort to ensure the safe, orderly, dignified and sustainable return and re-settlement of the Rohingyas to their legitimate homeland in Rakhine province of Myanmar.
- 7- The Ad Hoc committee will continue to:
 - a. **Engage** to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles;
 - b. Assist in information gathering and evidence collection for accountability purposes
 - c. **Mobilize** and coordinate international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingyas in Myanmar
 - d. **Collaborate** with the international bodies, such as, office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Security Council, UN General Assembly, UN Human Rights Council and other international and regional mechanisms.
 - e. Follow up the case at the ICJ in support of The Gambia till a final verdict is issued
 - f. Follow up ICJ's notification of its order of provisional Measures to the UN Security Council Pursuant to Article 41 (2) of the Statute of the ICJ
- 8- Decides to remain seized of this matter.

OIC Res. No. 4/47-MM, On the Situation of the Muslim Community in Myanmar, November 2020

Available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=6631&refID=3255

French version available at:

https://www.oic-oci.org/docdown/?docID=6624&refID=3255



OIC/CFM-47/2020/MM/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTIONS

ON

MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND MUSLIM MINORITIES IN THE NON-OIC MEMBER STATES

ADOPTED TO THE

47TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS (SESSION OF UNITED AGAINST TERRORISM FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT)

NIAMEY, REPUBLIC OF NIGER 27-28 NOVEMBER 2020 (12-13 RABI AL THANI 1442H)

RESOLUTION NO.4/47-MM ON THE SITUATION OF THE ROHINGYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN MYANMAR

The Forty-Seventh Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (United Against Terrorism for Peace and Development) held in Niamey, Republic of Niger, on 27-28 November 2020 (12-13 Rabi al Thani 1442H).

Guided by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and pursuant to relevant resolutions on Muslim communities and minorities calling for assistance to Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States to preserve their dignity and cultural and religious identity,

Recalling Resolution No. 3/4-EX (IS) adopted by the 4th Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah in 2012 on the Rohingya Muslim Community in Myanmar and subsequent ministerial resolutions in this regard, particularly Resolution No. OIC/ EX-CFM/2017/FINAL RES adopted by the Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Kuala Lumpur on 19 January 2017; and Commending the Government of Malaysia for hosting the Extraordinary Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, on the Situation of the Rohingya Muslim Minority in Myanmar in Kuala Lumpur on 19 January 2017, and reaffirming and recalling the Final Communique of the Extraordinry Session,

Recalling also the Declaration of the special session of the OIC Contact Group on the Rohingya which took place at Heads of State level in New York on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting on 19 September 2017, to address the situation of the Rohingya Muslim Minority in Myanmar and the Astana Declaration on the Rohingya Muslim Community in Myanmar by the Meeting of Heads of State and Government, on the sidelines of the First Islamic Summit on Science and Technology on 10 September 2017 and the reports of the OIC Contact Group on Rohingya Meeting in New York on the 24th of September 2018 and 25th September 2019 on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting,

Recalling OIC initiatives at the United Nations on the situation of the Rohingya Muslim Minority, including Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/39/2 on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar of 27 September 2018; UN General Assembly Third Committee resolution A/C.3/73/L.51 on the situation of human rights in Myanmar of 16 November 2018and UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/248 of 31 October 2017 on the situation of Human Rights in Myanmar, and the UN Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/29/21 of 22 July 2015 on the Situation of Human Rights of Rohingya Muslims and other Minorities in Myanmar,

Recalling the Meetings of the OIC Adhoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya, and its decision to file a case at ICJ against Myanmar for committing genocide against the Rohingyas, **Noting** the meetings of the OIC Groups which took place in New York, Brussels and Geneva in December 2016, to discuss the situation of the Rohingya Muslim Minority in Myanmar,

Noting UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/70/233) 23 December 2015, and UN Security Council Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2017/22) of 6 November 2017 and the reports of the UN Special Rapporteur (UNSR) Yanghee Lee on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, (A/HRC/40/68) on 2 May 2019, and (A/74/342), 30 August 2019; and UN Human Rights Council Resolutions (A/HRC/34-L.8/Rev.1), 22 March 2017 and (A/HRC/RES/S-27/1) 5 December 2017, (A/HRC/RES/39/2) adopted on 03 October 2018 and A/HRC/RES/40/29 adopted on 11 April 2019, A/HRC/RES/42/3 adopted on 03 October 2019,

Welcoming the adoption of resolution (A/C.3/74/L.29) on the situation of the Human Rights in Myanmar on 14 November 2019 by the 3rd Committee at the 74th session of the UN General Assembly,

Noting also the opening Statement of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to the 36th Session of the UN Human Rights Council, on 11 September 2017, in which he warned that the "pattern of gross violations of the human rights of the Rohingya suggested a widespread or systematic attack against the community, possibly amounting to crimes against humanity" and that the "situation sees a textbook example of ethnic cleansing",

Noting also the opening Statement of the Chairperson of the United Nations Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, to the UN General Assembly on 23 October 2019, that Myanmar is "failing in its obligations under the Genocide Convention to prevent, to investigate and to enact effective legislation criminalising and punishing genocide",

Expressing serious concern over the opening statement by the High Commissioner for Human Rights during the 37th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council that ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya community is still underway,

Noting that the Final Communique of the 13th session of the Parliamentary Union of the Islamic Countries (PUIC), held in Tehran on 16-17 January 2018, stresses on the Protection of the Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar,

Alarmed that the flash report of the OHCHR on 3 February 2017 that found attacks against the Rohingya Muslims to have been widespread as well as systematic, vindicating the very likely commission of crimes against humanity, and welcoming the decision of the human Rights council to constitute a Fact-Finding Mission pursuant to its Resolution 34/22 of 24 March 2017; *concerned* at persistent denial of human rights violation by the Government of Myanmar,

Underscoring the need to establish the facts of the situation on the ground in Rakhine State through an independent investigation body, and in this regard, noting with concern that the Government of Myanmar has ceased cooperation with UN mechanisms the UN Special Rapporteur (SR) on the Human Rights Situation in Myanmar and the Independent

International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar established under the UN Human Rights Council,

Condemning the attacks of the Arakan Salvation Army against police and military posts on 25 August 2017; **noting** that the clearance operations and atrocities against the Rohingya community by Myanmar forces and its proxies had been continuing before the 25 August 2017 attack,

Deeply distressed by the reports of Rohingya civilians in Rakhine State being subjected to unlawful use of force by extremist elements; the excessive use of force by the military and security forces; extrajudicial, arbitrary or summary killings, rape and other forms of sexual violence; and arbitrary detention, and the enforced disappearance of Rohingya civilians in Rakhine State, including reports of large-scale destruction of homes and systematic evictions of Rohingya Muslim minority from northern Rakhine State, through the use of arson, violence, confiscation of private property, and artificial ethnodemographic reconstruction,

Express serious concern that, according to the United Nations Children's Fund, nearly 60 per cent of Rohingya Muslims who have been forced to flee to Bangladesh are children (Source: PP12 of GA Res 72/248). Noting further that these children, especially unaccompanied children, face increased vulnerability and are more susceptible to becoming victims of killings, sexual violence and trafficking-in-persons,

Noting with deep concern also the deteriorating security, human rights and humanitarian situation in Rakhine State, and the continued serious violations and abuses of human rights of Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State, as well as statelessness, disenfranchisement, economic dispossession, marginalization and deprivation of livelihoods, as well as restrictions on freedom of movement for persons belonging to the Rohingya community, including the confinement of approximately 120,000 people in camps for internally displaced persons, the majority of whom rely entirely on foreign aid,

Concerned that, despite the fact that the Rohingya population, especially Muslims, had been living in Myanmar for generations prior to its independence and have no ties to anywhere but Myanmar, they have been made stateless since the enactment of the 1982 Citizenship Law and since then have been subjected to restrictions on access to education, health services and livelihoods, underscoring that the lack of citizenship status and related civil and political rights of Rohingya Muslims and others, including voting rights, is a serious human rights violation,

Appreciating the Government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh for welcoming Rohingya Muslims into the country and for providing safety and humanitarian assistance to more than 1.2 Million Rohingya refugees fleeing persecution in Myanmar's Rakhine state,

Taking into consideration that the plight of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar cannot be tackled from a purely humanitarian perspective, and should be dealt with within the framework of their inalienable rights as citizens,

Welcoming the September 2017 letter addressed by President Haydar Abbadi of Iraq to the heads of Muslim countries and the OIC Secretary General, regarding the Rohingya crisis, along with the violations of human rights and genocide against the Rohingya, which letter calls for holding an urgent meeting of the Council of the OIC Foreign Ministers to form an international alliance to counter and stop these violations,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary General on the Muslim Community in Myanmar (Document No. OIC/CFM-47/2020/MM/SG.REP);

- 1. **Condemns** the systematic brutal acts and horrendous atrocities perpetrated against the Rohingya Muslim Community in Myanmar, especially post 25 August 2017, which constitute a serious and blatant violation of international law, international human rights conventions as well as violations of international humanitarian law and in total disregard of Myanmar's state responsibility to protect its unarmed civilian Muslim minority; Particularly denounce the involvement of security forces and militias in continued acts of violence towards Rohingya Muslims including mass gang-rape, killings in thousands including of babies and children, burning people alive, brutal beatings, disappearances, eviction and forced expulsion of inhabitants, arbitrary arrests, detentions, torture, in addition to burning of Rohingya homes, places of worship, villages and fields of standing crops;
- 2. **Expresses** serious concern over the fact that the Rohingya community continues to face systematic discrimination in Rakhine state, including killing, rape, eviction and forced expulsion of inhabitants, which derives from their lack of legal status resulting in restrictions on their freedom of movement, access to land, food, water, education, health care as well as restrictions to marriage and birth certificates;
- 3. **Expresses** concern over the fact that any radicalization or infiltration of radical elements into the Rohingya minority community may further complicate the solution of the problem and have implications on regional security;
- 4. **Strongly condemns** all violations and abuses of human rights in Myanmar, including widespread, systematic and gross human rights violations and abuses committed in Rakhine State, including the presence of elements of extermination and deportation and systematic oppression and discrimination, which may amount to persecution and to the crime of apartheid, also strongly condemns the disproportionate response of the military and the security forces, deplores the serious deterioration of the security, human rights and humanitarian situation, the exodus of more than 1.1 million Rohingya Muslims and other minorities into Bangladesh and the subsequent depopulation of northern Rakhine State, and calls upon the Myanmar authorities to ensure that those responsible for violations of international law, including human rights violations and abuses, are held accountable;
- 5. **Expresses** deep indignation at credible reports, assessments and conclusions of various international and human rights organizations that recent atrocities are part of a systematic strategy and plan of ethnic cleansing of Rohingya Muslims of Rakhine State which have since August 2017, affected over 723,000 Muslims who have been forcibly displaced to Bangladesh, in addition to the 87,000 Rohingya that

have been displaced since violent incidents of October 2016 and more than 300,000 who have fled previous episodes of violence since 1990;

- 6. **Expresses** full solidarity with the Government and people of Bangladesh, unfairly affected with the influx of a million plus Rohingya and appreciate them for opening their hearts and borders for the distressed community now facing an existential threat at the deviant policies and brutal practices of "ethnic cleansing" pursued systematically, at genocidal scale, in Myanmar in violation of human rights and total disregard of all international and civilized norms and laws;
- 7. **Expresses** serious disappointment and dismay at the Myanmar authorities denial of evidences and findings or reports such as the UN Flash report of 3 February 2017 and 13-24 September 2017 and the report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation ofhuman rights in Myanmar, of 8 September 2017 which clearly identify confirmed that the Myanmar security forces "deliberately set fire to houses with families inside, and in other cases pushed Rohingya into already burning houses";
- 8. **Expresses** once again, its deep concern over the humanitarian and human rights situation in Rakhine State of Myanmar;
- 9. Underlines the fact that the continuation of the current situation can engender serious adverse repercussions in the region and beyond;
- 10. **Expresses** concern over the spread of hate speech and incitement to violence, discrimination and hostility in the media and internet as well as the laws, which were passed discriminating against the Muslim community in Myanmar such as the interfaith marriage, religious conversion laws, etc;
- 11. Regrets the lack of response by the Government of Myanmar to the proposed OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) fact finding visit to Rakhine State to ascertain the human rights situation of Rohingya minority and requests the IPHRC to remain seized of the matter and continue to follow up on its visit request with a view to presenting an objective account on the factual situation on the ground to the CFM;
- 12. Welcomes the appointment of the Special Envoy of the Secretary General to Myanmar, Ambassador Ibrahim Khayrat, and mandates the OIC Secretary General to take the necessary measures to enable his Special Envoy to conduct a visit to Myanmar as soon as possible, and make efforts with the Government of Myanmar to conduct a fact-finding mission the soonest in order to ascertain the actual situation on the ground and report thereon to the CFM within six months from the adoption of the draft resolution, while taking the proper measures if the Government of Myanmar continues to refuse to cooperate with OIC mechanisms;
- 13. Calls upon the Government of Myanmar:
 - a. To honor its obligations under International Law and Human Rights covenants, and to take all measures to immediately halt all vestiges and manifestations of the practice of ethnic cleansing, genocide, violence of all types, vigilantism, acts of dispersion and discriminatory practices against Rohingya Muslims, as

well as the continuous attempts to obliterate their Islamic culture and identity immediately; including delisting them from household lists and demolition of places of worship, institutions and houses of Muslim minorities

- b. To immediately restore stability and security in Rakhine State, primarily by exercising maximum restraint, ending all violent acts, and protecting all persons regardless of their race and religion.
- c. To eliminate the root causes, including the denial of citizenship based on the 1982 Citizenship Act which has led to statelessness and deprival of their rights, and the continued dispossession and discrimination affecting the Rohingya Muslim Minorities, and work towards a just and sustainable solution to this issue;
- d. To de-escalate the situation in Rakhine State to prevent the further loss of lives and displacement so that humanitarian aid may be provided to all affected communities in need and medical support provided to the sick, injured and those suffering from malnutrition and severe mental trauma and to ensure the right of each individual to live and move without fear and persecution based on their religion or ethnicity;
- e. To take serious note about reports on the perpetration of crimes committed and evidences and findings of reports of international organisations such as the UN flash report of 3 February 2017 and UN Special Rapporteur's report (A/71/361) of March 2017 and reports coming out in the post August 2017 period. To take further note of the credible reports, assessments, and conclusions of various international and human rights organisations, members of media and experts that expose recent atrocities entirely on racial lines;
- f. To allow Muslims meaningful and unhindered freedom of movement within Rakhine State to pursue livelihood options and to access healthcare and education without any hindrance and allow free and unhindered access of local and international staff of humanitarian agencies to afford affected Muslims and vulnerable population humanitarian assistance based on their needs;
- g. To reverse and abandon policies, directives and practices that marginalize the Rohingya community economically, such as demolition of houses in the pretext of them being unauthorized, confiscation of lands in the name of development and social projects delegitimizing their ownership of lands, depriving them from business opportunities and accessing market places as well as employment opportunities;
- h. To create economic opportunities for the historically deprived Rohingya community in order to achieve balanced socio-economic development of the Rakhine State and to defuse tension among communities.
- i. To take urgent measures for a sustainable implementation of the "Arrangement on return of displaced persons from Rakhine State" with the Government of Bangladesh on 23 November 2017 and subsequent arrangements and

mechanisms agreed, by ensuring that the repatriation of any Rohingya refugees to Myanmar must be voluntary, safe, dignified, sustainable and uphold their human rights;

- j. To create the conditions necessary for the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of refugees, to proactively apprise the prospective returnees about developments in this regard and to formulate a time-bound road map for their implementation;
- k. To cooperate fully with all national, regional and international mechanisms to establish the facts and circumstances of the alleged recent human rights violations by military and security forces, and abuses in Rakhine State, with a view to ensuring full accountability for perpetrators and justice for victims;
- To seek to address all aspects of insecurity in Rakhine comprehensively and to this end positively engage with the Governments of neighboring countries including Bangladesh on external aspects of insurgency and militancy in Rakhine, and cross border crimes such as human trafficking, irregular border crossing and settlement, smuggling of illegal drugs and arms etc., along with cooperation in various sectors for development and economic uplift that are of mutual interest;
- m. To restore the citizenship of the Rohingya Muslim community with all associated rights, which was revoked in the Citizenship Act of 1982;
- n. To immediately start registering children at birth and children who have been so far left out of such registration processes; reiterates the call upon the Myanmar Government to make any verification process impartial, transparent and voluntary and ultimately linked to citizenship free from threat of marginalization, racial bias, discriminatory entries (such as race, religion and language) and other kinds of arbitrariness.
- o. To facilitate, for the sake of transparency and accountability, international, independent and impartial investigations into allegations of human rights abuses, atrocities and violations, including sexual violence, rape, and abuse and violence against children, including violations and abuses carried out by members of the military, other Government agents and members of vigilante groups, including those motivated by extreme views against Rohingya Muslims and those who divide communities and to hold to account all those responsible for such acts and to provide justice for victims;
- p. To undertake all measures to counter incitement to hatred and hate speech leading to violence and to combat discrimination and violence against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities and ensure exemplary punishment to establish due deterrents.
- q. To further undertake all necessary measures to restore stability and launch a comprehensive reconciliation process that includes all components of the Rohingya community, including those who lost their nationality all forcibly

displaced and internally-displaced persons and refugees and others in irregular situations in or outside of Myanmar; and invites OIC member states to join their efforts to those of the international community at the UN with a view to ensuring the return of all forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals, Myanmar refugees and IDPs to their place of origin in safety and dignity.

- r. To positively respond to the OIC's offer to establish a medical facility in the State of Rakhine to address the healthcare needs of all communities and to respond positively to the proposal of establishing a technical school and to conducting a symposium on inter-faith dialogue.
- s. To take concrete measures to implement Myanmar's National Strategy for Closure of Internally-Displaced Persons (IDP) Camps adopted in December 2019, with a view to closing down the IDP camps in Rakhine State and relocate more than 120,000 Rohingya currently living in the camps to their places of residence; and
- t. Take proactive measures to protect the remaining Rohingya in Rakhine State from being exploited by human traffickers.
- 14. **Calls upon** Member States to demonstrate solid unity and take up the Charter bound duty of saving the Rohingya Muslim minority in Myanmar from existential threat and ensuring justice to heal the wounds, sufferings and grievous losses of lives. In this pursuit, take concrete steps to bring the perpetrators of atrocities, crimes against humanity and genocide and those responsible for destroying a community, its distinct history and culture to the all the International Legal and Juridical institutions and mechanisms. In this context, seeks necessary support from relevant OIC organizations and institutions, under the overall coordination of the Secretary General, and requests cooperation of OIC Ambassadors in New York, Geneva and Brussels;
- 15. While welcoming the signing of the "Arrangement on return of displaced persons from Rakhine State" between the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh on 23 November 2017 and in January 2018and expressing optimism about sustainable return of Rohingya through arrangements agreed upon between Myanmar and Bangladesh and urges, upon Myanmar to initiate return and resettlements with delivery on the ground;
- 16. Expresses cautious optimism at the general arrangements agreed between the Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar as a beginning towards sustainable return and reintegration of all displaced Rohingya into Myanmar society as equal members and until their full realisation occurs in letter and spirit, urge Member States and the international community to stand with the Government of Bangladesh and the Rohingya community in support and with humanitarian assistance in a collective responsibility of custodianship of the repatriation process;
- 17. **Commits** to work with the international community to urge Myanmar and Bangladesh to implement this arrangement swiftly and create conducive

environment in Myanmar for voluntary, safe and dignified return of Rohingya to their homeland in Myanmar;

- 18. **Calls upon** Member States to continue their efforts together with those of the international community and the UN in order to ensure the return of all Myanmar nationals who have been forcibly displaced from Rakhine State, through a voluntary and transparent process which provides for their safety, dignity and livelihood.
- 19. **Commends** Indonesia for the handover of the Indonesian Aid Project Station Hospital on 10 December 2019 in Myaung Bwe, Rakhine State to Myanmar Government in hope that the hospital can be utilized as much as possible for the Rakhine State community, both Muslim and Buddhist, and can encourage peace in the Rakhine State;
- 20. **Commends** the efforts made by OIC Member States in providing humanitarian assistance to the affected Rohingya communities in Myanmar and Bangladesh, notably the establishment of the Field Hospital in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, by the Government of Malaysia that has been operated since 1 December 2017and the Government of Turkey that has been providing critical medical and health assistance to displaced Rohingya since January 2018.
- 21. Welcomes the invaluable support and contributions made by the Government of United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Brunei Darussalam to the field hospital that has enabled it to provide critical medical and health assistance to the Rohingya community who are forcibly displaced from their place of origin.
- 22. Welcomes the concurrence of the Government of Myanmar with the recommendations of the report of the Advisory Commission on the Rakhine State led by Mr. Kofi Annan, made public in August 2017, and looks forward to their prompt implementation for stability, peace and prosperity in Rakhine State, in full consultation with all the communities concerned.
- 23. **Recalls** the Joint Communiqué signed on 16thNovember 2013 between the OIC and the Central Committee for Implementation of Stability and Development in the Rakhine State of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar which set the foundation for future cooperation, and encourages the Government of Myanmar to implement an all-inclusive and transparent verification process which will lead to the granting of citizenship for the Rohingya Muslim minority;
- 24. **Expresses** its concern that if the plight of Rohingya and the root causes of their suffering are not addressed, conditions on the ground will strengthen radical elements seeking to infiltrate into the Rohingya community, further complicating existing problems;
- 25. Acknowledges the substantial costs and social challenges incurred by countries in the region as a consequence of hosting forcibly displaced Rohingya from Myanmar, and invites OIC Member States to assist these countries in accordance with the

principles of burden-sharing and shared responsibility, and in the spirit of Islamic solidarity;

- 26. **Requests** the CFM Chair and Summit Chair and the Secretary-General, to engage and coordinate with the Myanmar Government for a high level delegation from the OIC Contact Group to visit Rakhine State to meet with local officials and the affected Rohingya Muslim Minority, and in this regard requests the cooperation of the Government of Myanmar to receive this visit;
- 27. **Calls upon** international community to continue working with the Government of Myanmar for protecting Muslim minorities in its territories;
- 28. **Calls on** OIC Member States to urgently render humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering and hardship of the Rohingya Muslim Minority in Rakhine State as well as those refugees and forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals in neighboring Bangladesh and requests the OIC Secretariat to continue to pursue its efforts on the humanitarian front including the establishment of an effective coordination mechanism for humanitarian assistance;
- 29. Takes note of the other commitments of the Government of Myanmar to improve the situation in Rakhine State for all communities, while underscoring the need for expedited implementation, including through commitments to the return of refugees and forcibly displaced persons, and the speech by the State Counsellor on 12 October 2017, in which she set out her vision for resolving the crisis, including through the setting up of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine;
- 30. Welcomes the initiative by the Republic of Indonesia to host the 1st Indonesia-Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue (IMID) that was held on 21-24 May 2017 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, which aims to promote interfaith and intercultural dialogue that is essential to nurture peace, social harmony, sustainable development and prosperity;
- 31. Pays tribute to the State of Kuwait for co-hosting, along with the European Union (EU), the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the Pledging Conference for Rohingya Refugee Crisis, in Geneva on 23 October 2017, where donor states and organizations pledged \$344 million in humanitarian response.
- 32. **Commends** the initiative by the Republic of Turkey to organize International Rohingya Consultations Meeting on July 6th, 2018, in Ankara in order to discuss the immediate measures to be taken by the international community with a view to preventing an humanitarian catastrophe and alleviating the burden on Bangladesh,
- 33. Welcomes the convening by the Secretary General of a conference on "Interreligious Dialogue in South and Southeast Asia" from 18-20 December 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand in partnership with King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) and

support from the Religions for Peace-Interreligious Council of Thailand, Mahidol University and Fatoni University, to strengthen understanding and cooperation among religious leaders and communities in their respective countries in the region.

- 34. **Requests** the Secretary-General to further explore such joint initiatives with the UN Secretary-General, ASEAN Secretary-General, the Government of Myanmar as well as other international organizations to develop and implement inter-faith and inter-communal dialogues that will foster greater understanding, tolerance and cooperation among ethnic and religious communities in South and Southeast Asia;
- 35. **Commends** the Secretary General for dispatching a joint OIC-IPHRC delegation to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh to visit Rohingya camps to obtain first-hand information about the plight of the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals; and expresses appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh for facilitating the visit and providing local logistical support.
- 36. **Calls upon** Members of the OIC Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya to carry out the tasks of ensuring accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles; Assisting in information gathering and evidence collection for accountability purposes; Mobilizing and coordinating international political support for accountability for the Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya in Myanmar.
- 37. Reiterates its support for The Gambia, as Chair of the Ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya for the legal case in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Myanmar for genocide actions on the Rohingya minority.
- 38. **Commends** the Gambia, Chair of the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee for initiating a legal case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on behalf of the OIC to end the culture of impunity by bringing the perpetrators to justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles;
- 39. Welcomes the decision by the International Court of Justice (ICJ), The Hague, to conduct its first hearing, from 10-12 December 2019, in the case against the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for its brutal actions against the Rohingya Muslim minority.
- 40. Welcomes the unanimous decision on 23 January 2020 of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, in the case against the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to order provisional measures to prevent further acts of genocide against the Rohingya from occurring in Myanmar;
- 41. Calls upon Myanmar to fully comply with the Order of the Court and take all measures to prevent the commission of all acts of genocide against the Rohingya, including *rapes of women and children* killings *of infants and pregnant women*,, physical abuse, causing serious bodily or mental harm, burning of homes and villages, destruction of lands and livestock and inflicting conditions of life

calculated to bring about their physical destruction, and measures to prevent births and to preserve all evidence related to the allegations of the crime of genocide;

- 42. **Calls upon** all OIC Member States to stand firmly with The Gambia and provide all necessary support, including financial assistance for the Legal case, on a voluntary basis, in accordance with the principles of burden-sharing and shared responsibility, and in the spirit of Islamic solidarity;
- 43. **Recognizes** that as per article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Rohingya has the Right to citizenship and arbitrary deprivation and revocation of this Right by Myanmar constitutes a serious violation of their Human Rights;
- 44. Emphasizes the need for Myanmar authorities to address the issue of citizenship of the Rohingya, as recommended by the Kofi Annan Commission Report in 2017;
- 45. Calls upon the Government of Myanmar to ensure the safe, dignified and sustainable return and resettlement of the Rohingya to their legitimate homeland in the Rakhine State of Myanmar.
- 46. **Invites** the OIC Member States to focus and assist in the voluntary repatriation of the Rohingya to their legitimate homeland in Myanmar.
- 47. Welcomes the establishment by the UN Human Rights Council, of Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM) to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyze evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar since 2011 and reiterates the call for taking all necessary legal steps to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings, in accordance with international law standards, in national, regional or international courts or tribunals that have, or may in the future have, jurisdiction over these crimes, in accordance with international law,
- 48. Welcomes the visits by the President of the Republic of Indonesia on 27-29 January 2018, Turkish Prime Minister on December 20 2017, Foreign Minister and First Lady on 7-8 September 2017 to the Rohingya camps in Bangladesh and encourages Members States to do the same in solidarity with the long suffering Rohingya people.
- 49. Welcomes the visit of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdallah of Jordan to the Rohingya camps in Bangladesh on 23 October 2017 and the humanitarian assistance sent by Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization as solidarity with the long suffering Rohingya People.
- 50. **Commends** the visit made by the Muslim Council of Elders and Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, led by Al-Azhar Grand Imam, to the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh, on26-27 November 2017, to take cognizance of their pain and needs.
- 51. **Stresses** the importance of the successful organization of the 2nd Congress of the Arakan Rohingya Union in an inclusive manner and calls upon the General Secretariat and Member States to support the Congress.

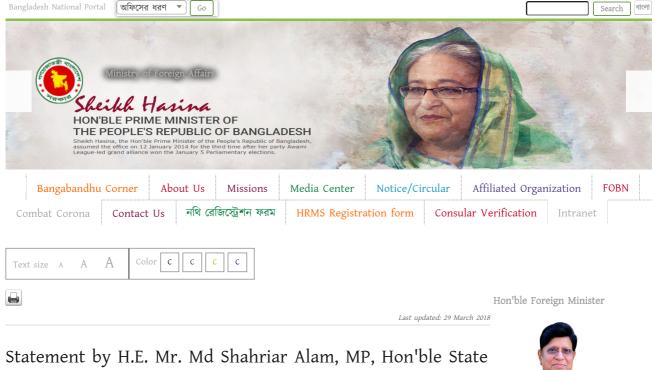
- 52. **Requests** the OIC Ambassadorial Group in New York, Geneva, and Brussels to continue their efforts to further the cause of the Rohingya at all international levels;
- 53. Requests further that the OIC Permanent Missions in New York, Geneva and Brussels and convene meetings of the Contact Group on Rohingya Muslim Minority of Myanmar on a regular basis to review the situation of the Rohingya Muslim minority and explore sustained engagement strategies with Myanmar, the United Nations, the European Union, and other international organizations, and report to the OIC Secretary General; and Encourages the Contact Group to make necessary visits to the refugee camps in Bangladesh and Myanmar in this regard.
- 54. Calls upon Permanent Missions of OIC Member States in Geneva to remain engaged on the human rights situation of Rohingya Muslim Minority of Myanmar in the UN Human Rights Council and, as an update of the OIC-Group led resolution A/HRC/29/21 on "Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar" adopted in the 29th regular session of the UN Human Rights Council in June 2015, to table a draft resolution with the same title by the OIC Group in Geneva in the next regular session of the UN Human Rights Council to be held in June 2020, with necessary updates and inclusions in the text reflecting the continued deterioration of the human rights situation of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar since October 2016, and more specifically since August 2017, resulting into the ongoing crisis due to the exodus of more than seven hundred thousand Rohingya Muslims to Bangladesh.
- 55. Welcomes the recent Security Council visit to Bangladesh and Myanmar co-led by Kuwait, Peru and the United Kingdom with a view to finding a durable solution to the plight of the persecuted Rohingya, the Ministers underscore on concrete actions at the Security Council to facilitate the sustainable repatriation of the Rohingya to their motherland/homeland,
- 56. **Recalls** in this regard, also the visit of the OIC Foreign Ministers to the camps in Cox's Bazar to assess the ground situation with regard to the plight of the Rohingya and to suggest actions by the OIC for the immediate resolution of the crisis.
- 57. **Requests** the Secretary General remain seized of the matter and to follow the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the 48th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

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Bangladesh, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Statement by H.E. Mr. Md Shahriar Alam, MP, Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh at BIISSorganised seminar at BICC on the theme- "Upcoming 45th Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of OIC, Dhaka: Revisiting A Shared Journey; 10: 10 AM", updated 29 March 2018

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Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh at BIISSorganised seminar at BICC on the theme- "Upcoming 45th

Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of OIC, Dhaka: Revisiting H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, M.P. A Shared Journey; 10: 10 AM

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

Hon'ble Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, The Foreign Secretary, Chairman and Director General of Bangladesh International Institute of Strategic Studies-BIISS, Your Excellencies, the Ambassadors and Members of the diplomatic corps, Distinguished speakers of the seminar, Senior officials of the Government and former diplomats, Distinguished Guests, Friends from the media, Ladies and Gentlemen Assalamu Alaikum and a very Good Morning to you all Let me first thank and appreciate BIISS and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for jointly organising this timely seminar H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP on OIC's 45th Council of Foreign Ministers -CFM while we are hosting it in Dhaka in five weeks from now This seminar holds particular importance for the people of Bangladesh Through its rich discussions, I am confident; they Profile

will come to know what honour their Government has been given by OIC in hosting the CFM and as part of the Write to the State Minister

Ummah, what they expect out of the forthcoming CFM and the OIC in years ahead The seminar is also useful in reflecting what the people of Bangladesh would like OIC to be and to do in these trying times when the Muslim World Foreign Secretary

is faced with so many challenges coming both from within and beyond

Let me, for now, mention that this distinct honour came in recognition of Bangladesh's active and constructive role and growing importance at the OIC Unanimous endorsement in favour of Bangladesh is also a mark of the confidence reposed in the Government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Distinguished Guests Ladies and Gentlemen.

Before I come to the subject of discussion today (the 45th CFM in Dhaka and revisiting our shared journey in OIC), let me dwell a little on why OIC is important for Bangladesh and why we are hosting this conference You must be aware that giving top priority to Bangladesh's association with the Muslim Ummah, we joined OIC under the leadership of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rhman through his historic participation in the second OIC Summit held in Lahore in 1974 This importance attached by the Father of the Nation's Bangladesh got amply reflected in

Article 25 (2) of the constitution giving a clear foreign policy direction of closer relations with the Muslim world The Profile enunciation reads Quote-"The State shall endeavour to consolidate, preserve and strengthen fraternal relations among Write to the Foreign Secretary Muslim countries based on Islamic solidarity"-Unquote

With OIC membership Bangladesh's shared journey with the Ummah started The organization has evolved from being Internal eServices a forum focusing on merely political issues into a much wider platform for cooperation in diversified fields of social,

Profile Write to the Foreign Minister

Hon'ble State Minister





Mr. Masud Bin Momen (Senior Secretary)

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economic, environmental as well as development import Bangladesh has since been actively engaged in OIC in keeping the purposes of the organization relevant to the times and needs of the Ummah

OIC's importance and value to us in fact, comes from its unique position It's the sole political organisation of the Muslim world with representation of 57 independent States, the right international body for voicing for the Ummah and serving their just causes, working for realisation of their aspirations and promoting their interests through joint Islamic action It is the second largest global organisation after the UN with enormous prospects as the Muslim world possesses the world's third of strategic resources to make the best out of that through the fourth of humanity including the highest ratio of youth population OIC offers the unique opportunity of the association and cooperation of the Ummah, a wider faith based socio-cultural identity with a given precondition for solidarity and unity

Bangladesh with its 90% Muslim population, the third largest among member states, having its preponderant Islamic Facebook Feed ethos and values finds its natural place in the fold of OIC Bangladesh also needs Islamic solidarity to reinforce its independence and sovereignty At the initial stage, the OIC membership indeed helped Bangladesh in securing recognition, establishment of bilateral relations with the Arab world which subsequently provided us with the first external labour market and a new source of foreign assistance Oil rich Middle East still remains the largest source of foreign remittance representing around 70% of global remittance inflow Socio-cultural interaction with the Muslim world also helps our people strengthen and flourish their Islamic values and bondage OIC's institutions like IDB are an important source of development credit for Bangladesh under the assistance of which more than a dozen development projects are running and several billion dollars of credit facility came our way to meet Bangladesh's petroleum need Bangladesh's Islamic universities and institutions benefited from the Islamic Solidarity Fund Ladies and Gentlemen,

Now, why is Bangladesh hosting the CFM? Under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and in pursuit of her Government's Vision 2021 of a digital middle income Bangladesh, we have been most successful in attaining the MDGs and with steady economic growth of above 6% for a decade we have lately come out of the LDC brackets Bangladesh is progressing confidently in all indices of development with a number of success stories such as - in being a model UN country, an inclusive society of interfaith harmony, having high rate of poverty eradication and a range of social safety net, women's empowerment and gender equality, peace keeping in the world, largely containing terrorism, enhancing climate resilience, advancing in the fields of health, education, ICT, and STI Time has therefore, come that Bangabandhu Quiz we share these success stories and our best practices with our brotherly countries of OIC and contribute in whatever measure we can in our shared journey in quest of peace, development, rights and place of dignity in the comity of nations A new emerging Bangladesh needs to be known

With the decision of hosting the CFM, Bangladesh has already become part of the OIC CFM Troika and an influential member of the important 8 member OIC Executive Committee for three years Bangladesh's leadership role in OIC is going to enhance its good image and strengthen its diplomatic position in safeguarding and promoting its interests not only in the OIC framework but also at global stage with beneficial impacts both at home and abroad

The question now comes what we are focusing in the Dhaka CFM Certainly, the challenges facing the Ummah such as the conflicts, division, tension and instability of the Muslim world are getting our focus in the Dhaka CFM along with the problems of terrorism and violent extremism, sectarian tendencies, hatred, prejudice and Islamophobia, massive humanitarian crises with forced displacements- seriously affecting rights and dignity of the Muslim minorities like the Rakhine Muslims of Myanmar, persistent poverty and socio-economic backwardness of Muslim societies are OIC priorities Protection of their rights and fundamental freedoms therefore, will remain a major preoccupation of this CFM

The way the CFM is addressing these issues are through resolutions and proposals regarding political, economic, social, cultural and family affairs issues that are now under finalisation The meetings of the Permanent Finance Committee, Economic, social, cultural and Family Affairs Commission (ICECS), and the Senior Officials in Jeddah this month have largely discussed these resolutions seeking to find solutions and approaches to the ongoing problems of the Ummah We see these issues being approached under four broad ranges of draft resolutions: (a) those relating to peace, conflict resolution, mediation and security; (b) those relating to OIC economic and development agenda; (c) those relating to minorities and humanitarian questions and (d) those relating to OIC reforms It is obvious that some differences in approach, emphasis, target of action, mechanisms and ways exist among OIC member states in dealing with these agenda But consensus is the general principle that is being sought

A number of initiatives are in the offing and specific resolutions for conflict resolution and mediation capacity strengthening are being considered

For OIC economic and development agenda, efforts are on to operationalize OIC preferential trade arrangement called TPS-OIC to substantially enhance intra-OIC trade Also new stage of programmes and project initiatives under OIC's second ten year development plan called OIC: 2025 Programme of Action (adopted in 2016 Istanbul Summit) is coming with Dhaka CFM Member states will now be invited to come up with their programme and project initiatives at this stage Needless to say that Bangladesh made substantive contribution in developing this document with inclusion of new targets in several new areas including STI, blue economy, sustainable agriculture with new ideas of lease farming, and regional economic integration through multi-modal connectivity Bangladesh has brought a new resolution on multi-sectoral connectivity Mentionably, Bangladesh is taking the lead in forming a private sector and track 15 based economic cooperation initiative called South East Asian Cooperation (SEACO) with regional economic cooperation and integration in mind involving three South East Asian member states Ultimate objective is to have a regional FTA and thereby encourage OIC FTA with this building block basis example

Rohingya problem in its humanitarian and human rights aspects is going to get prominence In fact, there will be a separate sideline session on the humanitarian challenges of the Muslim world with special focus on the Rohingyas on 6 May 2018 and prior to that a visit to the Rohingya make shifts in Cox's Bazar will take place on 4 May

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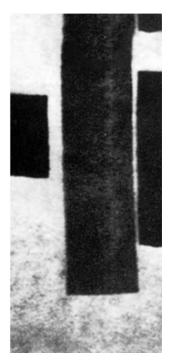
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A comprehensive reform of OIC and its system is a crying need of the day both for greater efficiency, dynamism and Emergency Hotline clout of the Organisation Bangladesh along with some other brotherly countries are working hard with their thoughts

and proposals for OIC reforms in a number of areas,- rules and procedures, organisational and Secretariat issues, their roles and mechanisms, recruitment rules, transparency initiatives, efficiency enhancement, observership and operationalisation of a number of new statutes, bodies and institutes are coming under these efforts Discussions on these are going to take place in Dhaka

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Bangladesh will be doing its utmost in taking up OIC agenda forward in the Ummah's interest during its one year's chairmanship We have chosen a theme for the Dhaka CFM – "Islamic Values for Sustainable Peace, Solidarity and Development" This is for the purpose of sending a particular message that through the pursuit and practice of eternal values of Islam such as tolerance, peace, equality, fraternity, justice and compassion, [on some of which some other civilisations rose in history,] the Ummah could remain firm in their right track, surmount multifarious challenges and reach the goals of sustainable peace, solidarity and development in our shared journey This is in line with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of seeing OIC standing firm on its principles and values and the Muslim world becoming master of its own capable of solving its own problems within itself

In conclusion, may I underline that the thoughts and recommendations coming out of enlightened discussions today would be of much value to us in the collective efforts of OIC and inspire us in our role as Chair of the CFM session I am also taking this opportunity to request for active participation of the member states and guests in the Dhaka CFM to make it a successful one

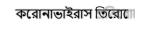
May Allah help us in our common endeavour Thank you all





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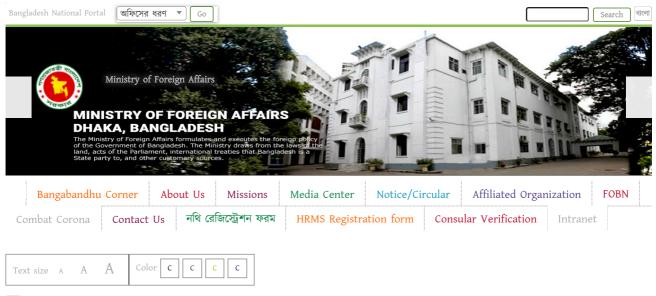


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Hon'ble Foreign Minister

Last updated: 3 March 2019

Press Release

Foreign Minister calls for fighting international terror and repatriation of the Rohingya to their homeland in Myanmar





H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, M.P.

Profile Write to the Foreign Minister

Hon'ble State Minister



Dhaka, 01.03.2019:

At the 46th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers today in Abu Dhabi, Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr A K H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP Abdul Momen, MP called for collective action to ensure accountability and justice to the Rohingyas and their immediate repatriation to their homeland in the Rakhine state of Myanmar He was referring to the OIC's decision to Profile

pursue the legal path to justice through the International Court of Justice (ICJ) – as was decided in the Banjul meeting Write to the State Minister of the OIC Ministerial Committee early last month this year

Foreign Minister Dr Momen also called for a stronger resolve from the OIC to fight terror and violent extremism in all Foreign Secretary their manifestations Dr Momen conveyed the consistent efforts of the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to fight terror with both hard and soft measures

Bangladesh Chaired the 45th CFM - held in Dhaka in 2018 and for the last one year - led the various OIC processes Foreign Minister Dr Momen opened the conference today at the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi and handed over the CFM Chair to the UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj addressed the CFM as a Guest of Honour Bangladesh remains a part of the OIC Troika and continues as an influential member of the important 8 member OIC Executive Committee for the next two years - as the rapporteur The theme chosen for this year's Council is '50 years of Islamic cooperation: Road map for prosperity and development' and it continues in a seamless thematic from the Bangladesh CFM's theme of "Islamic Values for Sustainable Peace, Solidarity and Development"

Highlighting the intricate interlinkages amongst challenges of economy, ecology and security, the Foreign Minister Profile noted that Bangladesh is striving hard to energise the OIC in a spirit of cooperation, particularly for peacebuilding and Write to the Foreign Secretary conflict mitigation, implementation of the OIC 2025 Programme of Action (POA), connectivity, regional economic integration, SDGs, STI and humanitarian priorities

All countries, including the new Chair - United Arab Emirates - lauded Bangladesh's leadership role in the OIC The OIC Internal eServices Secretary General Dr Yousef Otthaimen thanked Bangladesh and the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for its pioneering work in the field of sustainable development and countering terrorism and violent extremism



Mr. Masud Bin Momen (Senior Secretary)

SMC

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj - in her speech - categorically referred to Bangladesh as a primary pillar of India's strategic partnership with not only the Muslim world but also for various other processes in economy and security for the prosperity and stability of the region

In the afternoon, the Foreign Minister had a bilateral meeting with the Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj at the hotel The two sides discussed issues of bilateral interest - which included, amongst others, trade, finance and connectivity The two sides discussed various regional issues and reaffirmed their resolve to address strategic issues together

The Foreign Minister also met his counterparts from the Maldives, Indonesia, the Gambia, Malaysia and several other Central E-Services key Ministers on the sidelines of the CFM and discussed issues related to cooperation in Blue Economy, production, finance and trade

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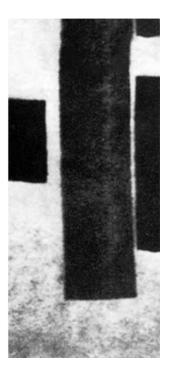
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Press Release OIC Okays Legal Action Against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in Abu Dhabi

Dhaka, 04.03.2019:

OIC, in a major diplomatic breakthrough, unanimously adopted a resolution to move at the International Court of H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, M.P. Justice (ICJ) for establishing the legal rights of the Rohingyas and addressing the question of accountability and justice.

The resolution to pursue a legal recourse through the ICJ came after a long series of negotiations to seek Profile

accountability for crimes committed against humanity and gross violation of human rights in the case of the Rohingyas Write to the Foreign Minister in Myanmar. Hon'ble State Minister

The Gambia led the process with a ten-member high-powered ministerial committee. The Committee's first meeting was co-chaired by the Gambia in Banjul last month on the 10th of February. It recommended taking legal steps for establishing legal rights on the principles of international law - specifically the Genocide Convention and other Human Rights and Humanitarian Law principles.

This unanimous measure sets a precedent for theyou OIC in pursuing the legal path to justice to address crimes committed against humanity and for establishing the legal rights of the Rohingya population to their rightful homeland in the Rakhine state of Myanmar.

The Committee's decision was endorsed in a full-fledged resolution and adopted in the final session of the 46th Council of Foreign Ministers in Abu Dhabi on the last day of the Council meeting. Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul

Momen led a high-powered delegation to the Council and to the negotiations in the Special Committee in this regard. 2019-03-04



Last updated: 4 March 2019

H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP

Profile Write to the State Minister

Foreign Secretary



Mr. Masud Bin Momen (Senior Secretary)

Profile Write to the Foreign Secretary

Internal eServices

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Press Release Foreign Minister highlights the need for solidarity among the member states of OIC

Dhaka, 30.05.2019:

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen, MP led a Bangladesh delegation to the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, M.P. preparatory to 14th Islamic Summit of the OIC today on 30 May 2019 at Jeddah Conference Palace of Saudi Arabia His

delegation included Mr Golam Moshi, Bangladesh Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and PR to OIC; Director General Profile (International Organisations) Amb A F M Gousal Azam Sarker and other officials of the Ministry and Bangladesh Write to the Foreign Minister

Embassy and Consulate General in Saudi Arabia

During his intervention at the Ministerial Level meeting the Foreign Minister highlighted the need for solidarity and unity among the member states of OIC and stressed on cooperation in diversified fields while underscoring the urgency for addressing the major challenges of the Muslim Ummah such as the conflict situation and tension in many OIC countries, terrorism, Islamophobia, humanitarian issues, and underdevelopment He emphasized that the Muslim nations should be able to resolve their own issues within OIC and proposed a new platform for the Ulema to work together to counter extremism and terrorism While speaking on cooperation for faster development, the Foreign Minister stressed the need for synchronizing policies and programmes of the IsDB with the goals and targets of the OIC under its second ten year development plan

Dr Momen prominently highlighted the issue of the forcibly displaced Rohingya community of Myanmar sheltered in Bangladesh and sought support of the OIC member states in resolving the crisis He particularly urged on addressing H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP the two important issues- their repatriation to Myanmar and the issue of accountability and justice for gross human

rights violations and crimes against humanity done against the Rohingya He appreciated the Gambia led initiative of Profile taking legal recourse to establish Rohingya rights and address their justice question at the International Court of Write to the State Minister

Justice against Myanmar Rohingya issue got prominence in the ministerial meeting The meeting agreed on the outcome documents - a resolution on Palestine and the draft final communique, which Foreign Secretary

among other issues, covered the Rohingya crisis and contain directions for member states to address the return and accountability questions The drafts were finalized by the Senior officials meeting on 27 May 2019 in which the Bangladesh delegation was led by Director General Amb A F M Gousal Azam Sarker

In the sidelines, the Foreign Minister attended the AdHoc Ministerial Committee Meeting dealing with the Banjul process of accountability and justice for Rohingya The meeting came out very productive and fruitful

At the sidelines of the CFM, the Foreign Minister met his counterparts from Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei and Maldives The leaders discussed various issues of mutual concern as well as issues of importance for the Muslim Ummah in general The issue of Rohingya featured prominently during the discussion and the leaders put emphasis on the repatriation and accountability of the perpetrators Dr Momen also called for greater economic integration and trade facilitation among the countries He also discussed with South East Asian Cooperation Forum for economic integration in the region which is expected to be launched in Dhaka in June 2019

2019-05-30



Hon'ble State Minister



(Senior Secretary)

Profile Write to the Foreign Secretary

Internal eServices

SMC



Last updated: 30 May 2019

Bangladesh, Embassy, The Hague, Press Release, "Bangladesh supports OIC backed initiative by The Gambia in the International Court of Justice (ICJ)", 12 November 2019

Available at:

http://bangladeshembassy.nl/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Reception-in-honour-of-the-Gambian-Minister-of-Justice-5.doc

Embassy of Bangladesh The Hague

Press Release

Bangladesh supports OIC backed initiative by The Gambia in the International Court of Justice (ICJ)

12 November 2019, The Hague: The international community was urged to extend its political, diplomatic and moral support to The Gambian efforts in bringing Myanmar before the International Court of Justice for its genocidal acts against the Rohingyas in the Rakhine State in a Welcome Reception in honour of The Gambian Minister of Justice Abubakar Tambadou.

The Reception was jointly organized by the Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Netherlands, Sheikh Mohammed Belal and Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to the Netherlands Dr.Hissa Abdulla Alotaiba (curent Chair of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers) at the Bangladesh House in the evening of 11 November 2019. Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda, Dean of Diplomatic Corps & Ambassador of Nicaragua to the Netherlands Mr. Carlos J. Arguello Gomez, Permanent Representative of The Gambia to the OIC and the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to ICC, Ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Pakistan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Thailand, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Austria, Australia, Cyprus, Ireland, Kosovo, and Senegal; CDA, a.i. of UAE, Belarus, and Cameroon; Gambia's Legal Team, representative from the OIC Secretariat, representatives from Civil Society Organizations/ NGOs including No Peace Without Justice, Human Rights Watch, Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, among others, joined the Reception.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the Netherlands explained how Bangladesh has been bearing the brunt over decades of the systematic persecution against the Rohingyas in the Rakhine State by the Myanmar authorities. The Ambassador appreciated The Gambia for its courage and determination to institute a case against Myanmar at the ICJ under the 1948 Genocide Convention and thanked the OIC to back The Gambia in this endeavour. Lamenting international community's sense of indifference, he wondered what would happen had Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, whom the world came to know as "Mother of Humanity", would not have opened the border for these Rohingyas. The Ambassador wondered "why the world is not The Gambia?". He sought support from the international community for the return of the forcibly displaced Rohingyas from Bangladesh to their origins in Myanmar with safety, security and dignity.

As Saudi Arabia is the current Chair of the OIC Summit, Ambassador of the Saudi Arabia to the Netherlands Abdulaziz Abdullah Abdulaziz Abohaimed also spoke on the occasion. He referred to the 14th Heads of State Summit of the OIC held on 31 May 2019 in Makkah Al Mukarramah that affirmed its support, using all international legal instruments, to hold accountable the perpetrators of crimes against the Rohingya and urged upon The Gambia to take immediate measures to launch the case at the ICJ on behalf of the OIC. Appreciating The Gambia to file the case against Myanmar at the ICJ, the Ambassador assured that as the Chair of the OIC Summit, Saudi Arabia would continue to extend support to The Gambia to hold Myanmar accountable for its genocidal acts against Rohingyas.

The Minister of Justice of The Gambia Abubakar Tambadou termed the filing of the application by The Gambia against Myanmar before the ICJ as a historic occasion and expressed his sincere appreciation to the OIC for its support and endorsement to The Gambia to ensure accountability for the human rights violations against the Rohingyas in Myanmar. Referring to

his visit to Rahingya camps in Cox's Bazar in May 2018 as the leader of The Gambian delegation to the OIC Council of Foreign Minister's Meeting held in Bangladesh, The Gambian Minister shared his experience of discussion with the victims of atrocities and expressed his resolve that The Gambia, with the support of the OIC, shall hold Myanmar accountable for its committing genocide against the Rohingyas. He sought political, diplomatic and moral support from the international community to ensure justice for the Rohingya genocide victims so that such genocide cannot be repeated in the Rakhine State or elsewhere.

The Minister of Justice of The Gambia Abubakar Tambadou flanked by the Legal Team and the Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Netherlands Sheikh Mohammed Belal and Permanent Representative of The Gambia to the OIC Omar Sallah filed an application before the International Court of Justice in The Hague in the morning of 11 November 2019 instituting proceedings and request for provisional measures against Myanmar for violation of the 1948 Genocide Convention by its atrocity crimes against Rohingyas in the Rakhine State.

The 45th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC held from 5-6 May 2018 in Bangladesh established the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee with The Gambia as the Chair and Bangladesh as one of the other nine members, among others, to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws and principles.

Bangladesh, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Opening Remarks by Hon'ble Foreign Minister at the Inaugural Session of the 6th International Conference on Bangladesh Genocide and Justice", updated 17 November 2019

Available at:

https://mofa.gov.bd/site/page/2104fcad-3c6a-44fd-880d-f5300c7c0828

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Opening Remarks by Hon'ble Foreign Minister at the Inaugural Session of the 6th International Conference on Bangladesh Genocide and Justice



Eminent experts Distinguished guests Dear participants Ladies and gentlemen,

As-salamuAlaikum and good afternoon to you all

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to be present here at the inaugural ceremony of the 6th International Conference Profile on Bangladesh Genocide and Justice I express my deep appreciation to all the experts for your presence here My Write to the Foreign Secretary sincere thanks go to the Trustees and the authority of the Liberation War Museum who has been organizing this biannual event on a regular basis

Ladies and gentleman

Last updated: 17 November 2019

H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, M.P.

Profile Write to the Foreign Minister

Hon'ble State Minister



H.E. Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP

Profile Write to the State Minister

Foreign Secretary



Mr. Masud Bin Momen (Senior Secretary)

CNIC

Bangladesh is a country which was born out of devastating yet glorious armed struggle led by the greatest Bangalee of all times, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman The liberation war of 1971, although ended with our birth as a sovereign nation, left deep scars of genocide and unimaginable human sufferings, perpetrated by the occupation army of Pakistan and their local collaborators

Today, as we speak on our journey through genocide and justice, I would like to pay my deepest homage to the memory of the martyrs of our liberation war who laid their lives and also our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who had struggled his whole life for the emancipation of the Bangali nation and led towards Central E-Services the ultimate victory

Distinguished guests

Bangladesh has experienced worst form of genocide during its birth During the 1971 liberation war the people of this land witnessed the brutal killing of 3 million people, displacement of 30 million citizens, of which 10 million had to shelter in neighbour India, violation of more than 200,000 women and wide-spread torture, rape and destruction that started with the Operation Searchlight on 25th March night According to the report of British journalist Simon Dring in the Daily Telegraph at that time, more than 25000 people were killed on the night of March 25 in Dhaka alone The pattern of killings show clear intention of the Pakistani junta to destroy certain sections of the society, on the ground of religion, race and political belief

Bangladesh as a victim of genocide remained committed to prevention of genocide anywhere anytime We also believe accountability and justice are important steps towards preventing genocide It also plays important role in reconciliation and healing which is important for sustaining peace Despite obstacles, Bangladesh has made sure that the perpetrators of 1971 genocide are brought to justice The trial of individuals responsible for the genocide and crimes against humanity by the international crime tribunals mark significant contribution by Bangladesh to the global Bangabandhu Quiz slogan of 'never again'

This daunting task was possible to accomplish due to very strong commitment of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina towards the cause of genocide and justice

Ladies and gentlemen

As victim of world's horrific genocide, Bangladesh from the very beginning of its statehood, always has been supporting the oppressed and violated people around the globe In line of this principle, our Hon'ble Prime Minister decided to open the border for the Rohingyas who are one of the most persecuted nations of the world Unless she would have opened her borders, world could witness the 2nd largest genocide since World War II The Rohingya crisis was created by Myanmar and indeed it has been a problem of long decades in Myanmar The end of this crisis could happen only by the safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return of the Rohingyas to their own land However, to stop recurrence of Rohingya persecution, exodus and bringing the perpetrators of this crisis into justice is crucially important

To that end, we have remained supportive to the international mechanisms currently in the process towards ensuring justice for the Rohingyas Bangladesh welcomed the initiative of International Criminal Court and and as a state party to Rome statute provided all cooperation to the prosecution so far We are also encouraged by the recent submission of case by Gambia to the International Court of Justice on behalf of OIC group under the Genocide Convention 1948 We believe, ending of the culture of impunity would bring some positive development towards the solution of Rohingya crisis

Distinguished guests,

This Conference has been organized at a time when we are preparing to observe the 50th anniversary of 1971 genocide Such initiatives are important tools for creating social framework for atrocity prevention It is also a very effective forum for raising awareness on the past incidents of genocide including the one of 1971

I hope this august gathering of learned and eminent scholars from all around the world will contribute to the efforts of Bangladesh government for the international recognition of "1971 Genocide" Our government and parliament has adopted 25th March as the Genocide Day of Bangladesh

We also expect the experts to shed light and develop insights into the existing challenges to international justice institutions in dealing with the crime of genocide and other international crimes

Ladies and gentlemen,

21/12

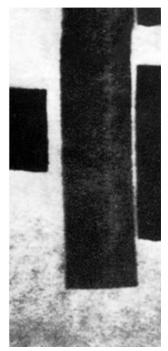
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Before I end, I would like to express my appreciation to the Liberation War Museum which has been preserving the Emergency Hotline valorous triumph as well as the indescribable sufferings of the people of Bangladesh in 1971 This Museum has been contributing in upholding the spirit of the great Liberation War and making our new generation well and rightly aware of the history of the struggle and sacrifice of the people of Bangladesh The Museum has been creating bridge between generations and making the new generation prepared for building the nation in line the with the dream for which our freedom fighters sacrificed their lives

Bangladesh has always been active to establish a culture of peace all around the world In this regard, I would like to quote from the speech of our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman delivered at the UN General Assembly in 1974 where he said, "I know that the soul of our martyrs join us in pledging that the Banglaee nation fully commits itself to the building of a world order in which the aspiration of all men and women for peace and justice will be realized " I believe all violence & wars emanates for a mindset of intolerance, ignorance and disrespect towards others. Therefore, if we can inculcate a mindset of respect and love for others, irrespective of color, ethnicity and religion We can establish sustainable world of peace Let us join together to create such mindset of tolerance & respect for others

Before conclusion, may I request you to visit the displaced people of Myanmar persecuted Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar and listen to their stories, persecution, sufferings, tantamount to genocide & ethnic cleansing

I wish the Conference success

Thank you all

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu







Hotline to Prevent Corona Virus





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Bangladesh, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Speech of Hon'ble Foreign Minister on the Inauguration Ceremony of the OIC Youth Capital – Dhaka 2020", updated 28 July 2020

Available at:

https://mofa.gov.bd/site/page/aacc4a98-054e-4b98-b3ce-ec365a6e9228

Speech of Hon'ble Foreign Minister on the Inauguration Ceremony of the OIC Youth Capital – Dhaka 2020



BismillahirRahmanir Rahim

H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh-

H.E. Yousef bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen,OIC Secretary General-

H.E. Azad Rahimov, Chairman of the Islamic Conference of Youth and Sports Minister and Hon'ble Minister of Youth and Sports of Republic of Azerbaijan-

Justice Minister and Attorney General of the Gambia- H.E. Dawda A. Jallow

Honourable Ministers and high officials and all protocol ----

President of Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum- H.E. TahaAyhan

1/3/2021

Honorable State Minister of Ministry of Youth and Sports of Bangladesh- Md. Zahid Ahsan Russel MP

Excellencies, Brothers and Sisters,

As SalamuAlaikumWaRahmatullahiWaBarakatuhu.

It is a matter of great honor and privilege to welcome you to the biggest celebrations of the Youth so far – the OIC Youth Capital – Dhaka 2020. The recognition of Dhaka as the capital of youths of 57 OIC countries is indeed a testimony of overwhelming vitality of the youths of our country and the spirited leadership of our Hon'ble Prime MinisterSheikh Hasina. Before I move further – let me put on record, our deepest gratitude to OIC Secretary General, H.E. Mr. Youssef bin Ahmed Al Othaimeen and Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum President, HE TahaAyhan for honoring us with such title.

Excellencies, Brothers and Sisters,

Bangladesh joined OIC in 1974 under the visionary leadership of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and since then it has been playing significant role in different activities of OIC and promoting common interests of Muslim Ummah. We have always been at the forefront of engaging youths of the muslim world to bring positive changes. In this regard, I would like to remind you that Bangladesh, in partnership with ICYF, hosted the very first OIC Youth Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) as the youth segment of the 45th CFM of OIC in 2018.

Excellencies, Brothers and Sisters,

This year we are celebrating the Birth Centenary of our father of nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Throughout his life he stood for justice like a solid rock and his love for humanity and the common people has been the strength and spirit of his life. Once David Frost, a British journalist asked him and I quote, "What is your greatest strength, he replied "I love my people", and when he asked what is his greatest weakness, he replied, "I love my people". The convergence of the yearlong events of Dhaka-OIC Youth Capital with that of the celebration of the Bangabandhu'sBirth Centenary basically to enlighten the global youths to love humanity and stand for justice. We are going to introduce **Bangabandhu Global Youth Award** for the global youths for their outstanding contribution in the field of Innovation, Environment, Humanitarianism, Sports, Culture & Arts, and Entrepreneurship.

Excellencies, Brothers and Sisters,

Despite the grim backdrop of COVID-19 which has rattled the global economy and social structure, we believe that the strength, and in particular, the traits of the Youth are something that we can showcase for attracting human aspirations and ambitions. The occurrence of the COVID-19 has accentuated the underlying rationale for the theme of this year's edition 'Resilience for Parity and Prosperity'. COVID19 has shown the world that it is not the stockpile of weapons & nuclear bombs that can save life but it is love for fellow human beings irrespective of religion, culture, ethnicity or color that can pull us together to face this challenge. In fact, regardless of language, ethnicity, race, religion, even national boundaries and sovereignty, this deadly menace has caused us to think of 'humanity' as one. And youth that are fresh in mind and approach,open minded and highly innovative can take the lead.

Brothers and Sisters,

With the power of the youth, Bangladesh has already materialized the Vision-2021 to transform it into a "Digital Bangladesh" and the decision of organizing the whole "Dhaka, OIC Youth Capital 2020" program is a testament to the technologically empowered advanced Bangladesh. Despite the onslaught of COVID-19, Bangladesh is determined and steadfast to attain the goals and targets of SDG-30 and we are striving ahead with our Vision-2041 and "Delta Plan 2100". May I draw your attention that today 27th July is the 50th Birth Anniversary of SajeebWajed Joy, the architect of our Digital Bangladesh and he is none other than our Prime Minister's son, our IT Advisor.

Brothers and Sisters,

1/3/2021

Dhaka-OIC Youth Capital 2020 programs have been designed to create a nexus among the youngpeople from across the globe particularly by using technology, to bring positive changes. Our series of programs have been promoted online and social media through a platform named Youth for Global Bangladesh (Y4GBD) which is an initiative of my Ministry of Foreign Affairs in close association with Ministry of Youth and Sports. The Youth for Global Bangladesh, while we celebrate Dhaka- OIC Youth Capital 2020 activities from July 2020 till June 2021, it would create a permanent platform to engage youths across the globe to promote the interest of Bangladesh. This platform will be used as a tool for engaging youth for business, ideas & innovation, research& development as well as public diplomacy aiming at communicating influential youth leaders across the world to pursue a shared prosperity for our Common future.

Brothers and Sisters,

This inauguration will be followed by Resilient Youth Leadership Summit, where young people will meet global humanitarian leaders to brainstorm ideas to face the challenges posed by this COVID-19 and also to raise voice globally for the plight of Rohingya. This programme is particularly important as it emphasizes on leadership, vision and imagination of the youth for a better world. Our another objective is to sensitize the global youth that the persecution of Rohingya Community is an example of such intolerance, and solution lies in their safe, dignified and sustainable repatriation to their homeland in Myanmar. We would like our youth to imitate our Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina who out of love for humanity gave temporary shelter to the persecuted people of Myanmar.

We would like to further sensitize them that hatred and intolerance is not a way forward for a better world. Rather love and respect for people a sustainable world of peace and stability across nations. We would also like to highlight the issues of justice and accountability andenlighten the youth about the exemplary role played by OIC in lodging the case against Myanmar in the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Excellencies, Brothers and Sisters,

We are a lucky nation. Majority of our population are young with full of vibrancy and creativity. Therefore, our future is bright----our GDP growth rate was higher among the 45-Asia Pacific countriesand we are sure to achieve the dream of the father of Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman of a Shonar Bangla, a golden Bangla where poverty, illiteracy, discrimination and hunger will be a thing of the past.

I thank you all for joining this august event and let us build a better future. Almighty Allah has given all that we need, hands, eyes, mouth, brain and now it is your turn to ignite the spirit in you to enlighten the world and I have no doubt that you can do. Have confidence in you. Thank you.

Joi Bangla!

Joi Bangabandhu!

Long Live the OIC!

Canada, House of Commons, Forty-second Parliament, First Session, *Journals*, No. 322, 20 September 2018, p. 3988

Available at:

https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/House/421/Journals/322/Journal322.PDF

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA 42nd PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

Journals

No. 322

Thursday, September 20, 2018

10:00 a.m.

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA 42^e LÉGISLATURE, 1^{re} SESSION

Journaux

Nº 322

Le jeudi 20 septembre 2018

10 heures

PRAYER

DAILY ROUTINE OF BUSINESS

MOTIONS

By unanimous consent, it was ordered, That, notwithstanding any Standing Order or usual practice of the House, on Thursday, September 20, 2018, at the expiry of the five hours provided for debate on the third reading stage of Bill C 71, An Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms, every question necessary to dispose of the said stage of the said Bill shall be deemed put, and a recorded division deemed requested and deferred until Monday, September 24, 2018, at the ordinary hour of daily adjournment.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Pursuant to Standing Order 36, petitions certified by the Clerk of Petitions were presented as follows:

by Mr. Albrecht (Kitchener Conestoga), one concerning discrimination (No. 421 02616) and one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02617);

by Ms. Mathyssen (London Fanshawe), one concerning the Canada Post Corporation (No. 421 02618) and one concerning health care services (No. 421 02619);

by Mr. Eyking (Sydney Victoria), one concerning discrimination (No. 421 02620);

by Mr. Warawa (Langley Aldergrove), one concerning the elderly (No. 421 02621) and one concerning assisted suicide (No. 421 02622);

by Mr. Van Kesteren (Chatham Kent Leamington), one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02623);

by Mr. Genuis (Sherwood Park Fort Saskatchewan), one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02624);

by Mr. Shields (Bow River), one concerning the tax system (No. 421 02625) and one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02626);

PRIÈRE

AFFAIRES COURANTES ORDINAIRES

MOTIONS

Du consentement unanime, il est ordonné, Que, nonobstant tout article du Règlement ou usage habituel de la Chambre, le jeudi 20 septembre 2018, à l'expiration des cinq heures prévues pour le débat à l'étape de la troisième lecture du projet de loi C 71, Loi modifiant certaines lois et un règlement relatifs aux armes à feu, toute question nécessaire pour disposer de cette étape dudit projet de loi soit réputée mise aux voix, et qu'un vote par appel nominal soit réputé demandé et différé jusqu'à l'heure ordinaire de l'ajournement quotidien le lundi 24 septembre 2018.

PRÉSENTATION DE PÉTITIONS

Conformément à l'article 36 du Règlement, des pétitions certifiées par le greffier des pétitions sont présentées :

par M. Albrecht (Kitchener Conestoga), une au sujet de la discrimination (n° 421 02616) et une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02617);

par M^{me} Mathyssen (London Fanshawe), une au sujet de la Société canadienne des postes (n° 421 02618) et une au sujet des services de santé (n° 421 02619);

par M. Eyking (Sydney Victoria), une au sujet de la discrimination (n $^{\rm o}$ 421 02620);

par M. Warawa (Langley Aldergrove), une au sujet des personnes âgées (n° 421 02621) et une au sujet de l'aide au suicide (n° 421 02622);

par M. Van Kesteren (Chatham Kent Leamington), une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n $^{\rm o}$ 421 02623);

par M. Genuis (Sherwood Park Fort Saskatchewan), une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02624);

par M. Shields (Bow River), une au sujet du système fiscal (n° 421 02625) et une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02626);

by Mr. Waugh (Saskatoon Grasswood), one concerning discrimination (No. 421 02627);

by Mrs. Wagantall (Yorkton Melville), one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02628), one concerning discrimination (No. 421 02629) and one concerning aboriginal affairs (No. 421 02630);

by Mr. Anderson (Cypress Hills Grasslands), one concerning discrimination (No. 421 02631) and one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02632);

by Mr. Aboultaif (Edmonton Manning), one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02633);

by Ms. May (Saanich Gulf Islands), one concerning organ transplants (No. 421 02634) and one concerning Syria (No. 421 02635).

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

3988

The Order was read for the third reading of Bill C 71, An Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms.

Mr. Goodale (Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness), seconded by Mrs. Philpott (Minister of Indigenous Services), moved, That the Bill be now read a third time and do pass.

Debate arose thereon.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Pursuant to Standing Order 31, Members made statements.

ORAL QUESTIONS

Pursuant to Standing Order 30(5), the House proceeded to Oral Questions.

MOTIONS

By unanimous consent, it was resolved, That the House: (a) endorse the findings of the UN Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar that crimes against humanity have been committed by the Myanmar military against the Rohingya and other ethnic minorities and that these horrific acts were sanctioned at the highest levels of the Myanmar military chain of command; (b) recognize that these crimes against the Rohingya constitute a genocide; (c) welcome the recent decision of the International Criminal Court that it has jurisdiction over the forced deportation of members of the Rohingya people from Myanmar to Bangladesh; (d) call on the UN Security Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court; and (e) call for the senior officials in the Myanmar military chain of command to be investigated and prosecuted for the crime of genocide.

Le 20 septembre 2018

par M. Waugh (Saskatoon Grasswood), une au sujet de la discrimination (n $^{\rm o}$ 421 02627);

par M^{me} Wagantall (Yorkton Melville), une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02628), une au sujet de la discrimination (n° 421 02629) et une au sujet des affaires autochtones (n° 421 02630);

par M. Anderson (Cypress Hills Grasslands), une au sujet de la discrimination (n° 421 02631) et une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02632);

par M. Aboultaif (Edmonton Manning), une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02633);

par M^{me} May (Saanich Gulf Islands), une au sujet de la transplantation d'organes (n° 421 02634) et une au sujet de la Syrie (n° 421 02635).

ORDRES ÉMANANT DU GOUVERNEMENT

Il est donné lecture de l'ordre portant troisième lecture du projet de loi C 71, Loi modifiant certaines lois et un règlement relatifs aux armes à feu.

M. Goodale (ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile), appuyé par M^{me} Philpott (ministre des Services aux Autochtones), propose, Que le projet de loi soit maintenant lu une troisième fois et adopté.

Il s'élève un débat.

DÉCLARATIONS DE DÉPUTÉS

Conformément à l'article 31 du Règlement, des députés font des déclarations.

QUESTIONS ORALES

Conformément à l'article 30(5) du Règlement, la Chambre procède à la période de questions orales.

MOTIONS

Du consentement unanime, il est résolu, Que la Chambre : a) accueille les conclusions de la Mission d'établissement des faits des Nations Unies sur le Myanmar selon lesquelles les forces militaires birmanes ont perpétré des crimes contre l'humanité à l'endroit des Rohingyas et d'autres minorités ethniques et que ces actes horribles ont été sanctionnés aux plus hauts niveaux de la chaîne de commandement des forces militaires birmanes: b) reconnaisse que ces crimes contre les Rohingyas constituent un génocide; c) accueille la décision récente de la Cour pénale internationale selon laquelle elle a compétence sur l'exode forcé des membres de la population rohingya du Myanmar au Bangladesh; d) exhorte le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU à saisir la Cour pénale internationale de la situation au Myanmar; e) exige que les officiers supérieurs de la chaîne de commandement des forces militaires birmanes fassent l'objet d'enquêtes et soient poursuivis pour le crime de génocide.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Goodale (Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness), seconded by Mrs. Philpott (Minister of Indigenous Services), That Bill C 71, An Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms, be now read a third time and do pass.

The debate continued.

At 4:29 p.m., pursuant to Order made Tuesday, June 19, 2018, under the provisions of Standing Order 78(3), the Speaker interrupted the proceedings.

Pursuant to Order made earlier today, the question was deemed put on the motion and the recorded division was deemed requested and deferred until Monday, September 24, 2018, at the ordinary hour of daily adjournment.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

At 4:30 p.m., by unanimous consent, the House proceeded to the consideration of Private Members' Business.

Mr. Wrzesnewskyj (Etobicoke Centre), seconded by Mr. Ouellette (Winnipeg Centre), moved, That the House: (a) recognize that Canada has a rich tradition of peacekeeping, peace making and peacebuilding; (b) recognize that Canada is a world leader in the promotion of human rights and peace, having crafted the wording of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, envisioned the creation of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, championed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the "Ottawa Treaty") and initiated and led on the Responsibility to Protect doctrine; (c) recognize that the government drafted Article 2 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which calls on member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to contribute to the further development of peaceful international relations, including by seeking to eliminate conflict and promoting conditions of stability and well being; (d) recognize that harmful practices and social norms, including among women, that uphold gender hierarchies and other intersecting forms of marginalization and exclusion or condone violence are often exacerbated during conflict and that women and men must be equally committed to changing attitudes, behaviours, and roles to support gender equality; (e) acknowledge that overcoming insecurity and achieving sustainable peace are daily concerns for these communities and that women and girls suffer disproportionately in these conflict settings but remain almost entirely excluded from the processes that build peace; (f) recall resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council, notably Resolution 1325 (2000), which reaffirm the important and consequential role in women's engagement in preventing and resolving conflicts, in peace operations, in humanitarian response, in post conflict reconstruction, and in counter terrorism, and countering violent extremism; (g) acknowledge Canada's own challenges, including gender based violence and underlying gender inequality and work to develop a framework to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda domestically; and (h) reaffirm Canada's commitment to build on our recognized accomplishments and enhance our leadership role in advancing the cause of peace domestically and throughout the world by calling on the government to develop a plan to appoint a Women, Peace and Security Ambassador to: (i) promote research and studies relating

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ORDRES ÉMANANT DU GOUVERNEMENT

La Chambre reprend l'étude de la motion de M. Goodale (ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile), appuyé par M^{me} Philpott (ministre des Services aux Autochtones), Que le projet de loi C 71, Loi modifiant certaines lois et un règlement relatifs aux armes à feu, soit maintenant lu une troisième fois et adopté.

Le débat se poursuit.

À 16 h 29, conformément à l'ordre adopté le mardi 19 juin 2018, en application de l'article 78(3) du Règlement, le Président interrompt les délibérations.

Conformément à l'ordre adopté plus tôt aujourd'hui, la motion est réputée mise aux voix et le vote par appel nominal est réputé demandé et différé jusqu'au lundi 24 septembre 2018, à l'heure ordinaire de l'ajournement quotidien.

AFFAIRES ÉMANANT DES DÉPUTÉS

À 16 h 30, du consentement unanime, la Chambre aborde l'étude des Affaires émanant des députés.

M. Wrzesnewskyj (Etobicoke Centre), appuyé par M. Ouellette (Winnipeg Centre), propose, Que la Chambre : a) reconnaisse que le Canada a une riche tradition en matière de maintien, de rétablissement et de consolidation de la paix; b) reconnaisse que le Canada est un chef de file mondial pour ce qui est de la promotion des droits de la personne et de la paix, ayant contribué à la rédaction de la Déclaration des droits de l'homme des Nations Unies, prévu la création du Département des opérations de maintien de la paix des Nations Unies, été le champion de la Convention sur l'interdiction de l'emploi, du stockage, de la production et du transfert des mines antipersonnel et sur leur destruction (« traité d'Ottawa ») et mis de l'avant et dirigé la doctrine de la responsabilité de protéger; c) reconnaisse que le gouvernement a rédigé l'article 2 du Traité de l'Atlantique Nord, qui demande aux États membres de l'Organisation du traité de l'Atlantique Nord de contribuer au développement de relations internationales pacifiques, notamment en s'efforçant d'éliminer les conflits et de promouvoir des conditions propres à assurer la stabilité et le bien être; d) reconnaisse que les pratiques et normes sociétales néfastes, notamment parmi les femmes, qui ont pour effet de protéger les hiérarchies fondées sur le sexe et d'autres formes concomitantes de marginalisation et d'exclusion ou encore de cautionner la violence sont souvent exacerbées en période de conflits et que les femmes et les hommes doivent être tout aussi déterminés à changer les attitudes, les comportements et les rôles afin d'encourager l'égalité entre les sexes; e) reconnaisse que combattre l'insécurité et arriver à une paix durable est une lutte de tous les instants pour ces communautés et que les femmes et les filles souffrent plus que les autres dans les situations de conflits, mais sont presque totalement exclues des processus de consolidation de la paix; f) rappelle les résolutions adoptées par le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU, en particulier la Résolution 1325 (2000), qui réaffirme le rôle important de la participation des femmes dans la prévention et le règlement des conflits, les missions de paix, les interventions humanitaires, la reconstruction après conflit, la lutte contre le terrorisme et la lutte contre l'extrémisme violent; g) reconnaisse les problèmes que vit le Canada, y compris la violence sexiste et l'inégalité des sexes sous jacente, et s'efforce d'élaborer un cadre de mise en œuvre du programme sur les femmes, la paix et la sécurité au pays; h) réitère September 20, 2018

Le 20 septembre 2018

to root causes of and preconditions leading to violent conflict and to conflict resolution and prevention, for respect for women's and girls' human rights and to conditions conducive to peace, (ii) support the implementation of education, training and counselling in non violent conflict resolution, (iii) initiate, recommend, coordinate, implement, and promote national policies, projects and programs relating to the reduction and prevention of conflict and empowerment of women and girls and the development and maintenance of conditions conducive to peace, (iv) encourage the development and implementation of gender and peace based initiatives by governmental and non governmental entities including engaging with stakeholders, educational institutions and civil society, (v) lead the implementation of the Canadian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, (vi) promote gender equality and the integration of gender perspectives into peacebuilding and peacekeeping, (vii) review and assess the Departments' yearly Action Plan reporting. (Private Members' Business M-163)

Debate arose thereon.

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Pursuant to Standing Order 93(1), the Order was dropped to the bottom of the order of precedence on the Order Paper.

ADJOURNMENT PROCEEDINGS

At 5:30 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 38(1), the question "That this House do now adjourn" was deemed to have been proposed.

After debate, the question was deemed to have been adopted.

Accordingly, at 6:02 p.m., the Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10:00 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

l'engagement du Canada à prendre appui sur nos réalisations marquantes et à améliorer notre rôle de leadership dans la promotion de la paix au pays et partout dans le monde en demandant au gouvernement de mettre en place un plan visant à nommer un ambassadeur des femmes, de la paix et de la sécurité ayant pour rôle : (i) de promouvoir la recherche et les études sur les causes profondes des conflits violents et les conditions préalables à la résolution et la prévention de ces conflits, en vue de faire respecter les droits de la personne des femmes et des filles et de créer des conditions propices à la paix, (ii) d'appuyer la mise en œuvre d'activités d'éducation, de formation et de prestation de conseils sur la résolution pacifique des conflits, (iii) de lancer, de recommander, de coordonner, de mettre en œuvre et de promouvoir des politiques, des projets et des programmes nationaux portant sur la réduction et la prévention des conflits et sur l'autonomisation des femmes et des filles ainsi que sur la mise en place et le maintien de conditions propices à la paix, (iv) d'encourager l'élaboration et la mise en œuvre d'initiatives axées sur l'égalité entre les sexes et la paix par des organismes gouvernementaux et non gouvernementaux, notamment la mobilisation des intervenants, des établissements d'enseignement et de la société civile, (v) de diriger la mise en œuvre du Plan d'action national du Canada sur les femmes, la paix et la sécurité, (vi) de promouvoir l'égalité entre les sexes et l'intégration d'une démarche soucieuse d'égalité entre les sexes dans le cadre des activités de consolidation et de maintien de la paix, (vii) d'examiner et d'évaluer les plans d'action annuels des ministères. (Affaires émanant des députés M-163)

Il s'élève un débat.

Conformément à l'article 93(1) du Règlement, l'ordre est reporté au bas de l'ordre de priorité au Feuilleton.

DÉBAT D'AJOURNEMENT

À 17 h 30, conformément à l'article 38(1) du Règlement, la motion « Que la Chambre s'ajourne maintenant » est réputée présentée.

Après débat, la motion est réputée agréée.

En conséquence, à 18 h 2, le Président ajourne la Chambre jusqu'à demain, à 10 heures, conformément à l'article 24(1) du Règlement.

Canada, Global Affairs Canada, Statement of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, "Canada welcomes the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar", 11 November 2019

Available at:

 $\underline{https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-welcomes-the-gambias-action-to-address-accountability-in-myanmar.html}$

French version available at:

 $\label{eq:https://www.canada.ca/fr/affaires-mondiales/nouvelles/2019/11/le-canada-accueille-favorablement-les-mesures-prises-par-la-gambie-a-legard-de-la-responsabilisation-dumyanmar.html$

Annex 116 Canada welcomes the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar - Canada.ca



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Canada.ca > Global Affairs Canada

Canada welcomes the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar

From: Global Affairs Canada

Statement

November 11, 2019 - Ottawa, Ontario - Global Affairs Canada

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs, today issued the following statement:

"Canada welcomes the Gambia's submission to the International Court of Justice of an application to institute proceedings against the Government of Myanmar for alleged violations of the Genocide Convention.

"This move will help advance accountability for the genocide, which includes acts of mass murder, systemic discrimination, hate speech and sexual and gender-based violence against the Rohingya, including violence that took place in August 2017, forcing over 740,000 Rohingya to flee to neighbouring Bangladesh and triggering the creation of the largest refugee camp in the world.

"Consistent with the final report of the UN Fact-Finding Mission, which found reasonable grounds to conclude a strong inference of genocidal intent, Canada recognized the crimes against the Rohingya as constituting a genocide through a unanimous motion in the House of Commons in September 2018. The motion reiterated our call for the UN Security Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court.

1/3

"Canada will work with other like-minded countries to end impunity for those accused of committing the gravest crimes under international law. Together with our partners, we will explore options to support the Gambia in these efforts, with assistance from Canada's Special Envoy to Myanmar, the Honourable Bob Rae.

"Canada is committed to addressing the root causes of the crisis and ensuring that the Rohingya are fully and meaningfully engaged in the development of these solutions. Ensuring that the perpetrators of these atrocities are held to account is imperative to provide justice to the victims and survivors while building lasting peace and reconciliation in Myanmar."

Associated links

• Canada's response to the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh

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2/3

Canada, Global Affairs Canada, *Minister of Foreign Affairs – Transition book*, November 2019 [extract]

Available at:

https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/publications/transparency-transparence/briefingdocuments-information/transition-foreign-affairs-affaires-etrangeres/2019-11.aspx?lang=eng

French version available at:

 $\label{eq:https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/publications/transparency-transparence/briefing-documents-information/transition-foreign-affairs-affaires-etrangeres/2019-11.aspx?lang=fr$

Annex 117 Minister of Foreign Affairs – Transition book – November 2019

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Dhaka also intends to proceed with a controversial plan to relocate 100,000 refugees from the camps in Cox's Bazar to a flood and cyclone prone island in the Bay of Bengal called Bhasan Char.

The international community has significant concerns regarding protection needs and the economic viability of this island, which would duplicate humanitarian response costs.

Canada's Role

The onset of the crisis in 2017 led Canada to appoint the Honourable Bob Rae as the Prime Minister's Special Envoy to Myanmar, whose report and recommendations shaped Canada's Strategy to Respond to the Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The Strategy commits \$300 million over three years (2018-21) towards alleviating the humanitarian crisis, encouraging positive political developments in Myanmar, ensuring accountability, and enhancing international cooperation.

Since the beginning of 2017, Canada has allocated more than \$109 million for the provision of life-saving gender-responsive humanitarian assistance in Myanmar and Bangladesh. Canada is the fourth largest single country donor to the humanitarian Joint Response Plan in Bangladesh.

Canada continues to advocate for effective and timely access to Rakhine for NGOs and for the voluntary, dignified, safe, and sustainable return of refugees. Canada's gender-responsive development initiatives in Rakhine promote social cohesion, reconciliation, and inclusive governance. In Cox's Bazar, Canada is providing development assistance to host communities, while advocating for education and self-reliance opportunities for refugees, rights which are currently denied by the Government of Bangladesh.

In September 2018, Canada's House of Commons recognized the crimes committed against the Rohingya as genocide. Canada continues to call for a Security Council referral of the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court (ICC), and supports the UN's establishment of an Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar with a mandate to collect evidence and prepare case files for future criminal proceedings.

While Canada has had in place extensive sanctions, including an arms embargo, asset freeze, and dealings prohibition since 2007, Canada has also worked closely with the EU and the United States to coordinate the imposition of additional targeted sanctions in 2018 against various individuals involved in military operations in Rakhine State.

Key Considerations

Tensions are increasing in Cox's Bazar between host communities and [REDACTED]

On further international accountability efforts, Gambia on behalf of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is expected to file, on November 11, a case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to determine whether it has violated the Genocide Convention. Several Canadian parliamentarians, civil society organizations, and municipal councils have advocated for Canada to take this approach. [REDACTED]

Canada and the Netherlands, "Joint statement of Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands regarding the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar", 9 December 2019

Available at:

 $\label{eq:https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/joint-statement-of-canada-and-the-kingdom-of-the-netherlands-regarding-the-gambias-action-to-address-accountability-in-myanmar.html$

French version available at:

https://www.canada.ca/fr/affaires-mondiales/nouvelles/2019/12/declaration-commune-ducanada-et-du-royaume-des-pays-bas-au-sujet-de-laction-de-la-gambie-pour-assurer-laresponsabilisation-du-myanmar.html Joint statement of Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands regarding the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar -...



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Joint statement of Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands regarding the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar

From: Global Affairs Canada

Statement

December 9, 2019 - Ottawa, Ontario - Global Affairs Canada

"Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands welcome the Gambia's application before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Myanmar on the alleged violation of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Genocide Convention). In order to uphold international accountability and prevent impunity, Canada and the Netherlands hereby express their intention to jointly explore all options to support and assist the Gambia in these efforts.

"The Genocide Convention embodies the solemn pledge to prevent the crime of genocide and hold those responsible to account. Canada and the Netherlands consider it their obligation to support the Gambia before the ICJ, as it should concern all of humanity.

"In 2017, the world witnessed an exodus of more than 700,000 Rohingya from Rakhine State. They sought refuge from targeted violence, mass murder, and sexual and gender-based violence by Myanmar security forces, the very people who should have protected them. Joint statement of Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands regarding the Gambia's action to address accountability in Myanmar -...

"For decades, the Rohingya have suffered systemic discrimination and exclusion, marred by waves of abhorrent violence. These facts have been corroborated by several investigations, including those conducted by the UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar and human rights organizations. They include crimes that constitute acts described in Article II of the Genocide Convention.

"In light of this evidence, Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands strongly believe this is a matter that is rightfully brought to the ICJ, so that it can provide judgment on whether acts of genocide have been committed. We call upon all State Parties to the Genocide Convention to support the Gambia in its efforts to address these violations.

Contacts

1/9/2021

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Date modified: 2019-12-09

The Gambia, Office of the President, Press Release, "OIC tasks The Gambia to lead ICJ case against Myanmar", 3 June 2019

Available at:

http://www.statehouse.gm/oic-tasks-gambia-lead-icj-case-against-myanmar

OIC tasks Gambia to lead ICJ case against Myanmar | The Republic of new 1htp://www.statehouse.gm/oic-tasks-gambia-lead-icj-case-against-my...

OIC tasks Gambia to lead ICJ case against Myanmar



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OIC tasks Gambia to lead ICJ case against Myanmar

The government of The Gambia has been tasked by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to use all international legal instruments to hold accountable the perpetrator of crimes against the Rohingyas in Myanmar.

The 2019 Makkah Summit asked The Gambia to lead a strong ad hoc Ministerial Committee to take immediate measures to launch the case at the International Court of Justice on behalf of the OIC.

In a Communique issued by the Muslim leaders upon completion of the Makkah Summit, the OIC insists on the need for thorough "international, independent and transparent investigations into the human rights violations in Myanmar, including sexual violence and aggression against children, and to hold account all those responsible for these brutal acts in order to bring justice to the victims".

The Summit also called for all stakeholders to ensure free and unrestricted access to humanitarian assistance for affected persons and communities.

The Right of Palestinian Statehood

At the gathering at the Holy City of Makkah, His Excellency President Adama Barrow and other world leaders from Muslim countries affirmed their support for the Palestinian right of statehood.

The Summit said in a communique that Palestinians must ''attain their inalienable national rights, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian State on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its Capital''.

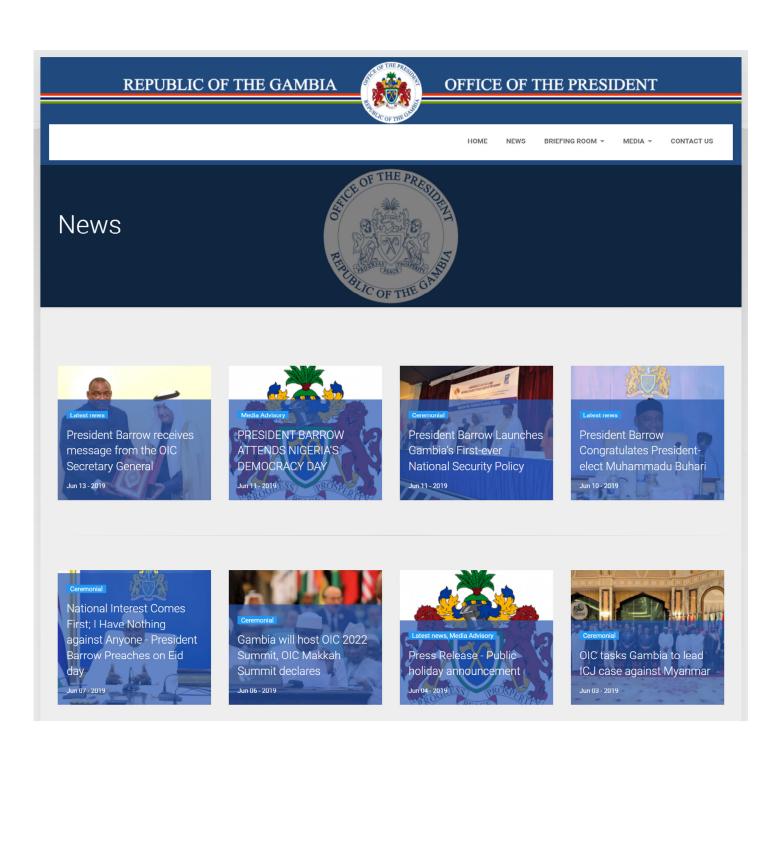
It further condemned the relocation of the United States embassy to Jerusalem, emphasizing total opposition to any plans "that would prejudice the historical and legal status of Al-Quds Al-Sharif". Any meaningful solution to the longstanding conflict, it added, must protect and guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people.

The host of the Summit, King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia said 'Palestine is the main issue until the Palestinians get their rights''.

The OIC also agreed that efforts must be made to confront the threat of terrorism and those who sponsor it.

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The Gambia, Office of the President, Press Release, "Cabinet approves transformation of GTTI into University of Science, Technology and Engineering", 6 July 2019

Available at:

 $\underline{http://www.statehouse.gm/cabinet-approves-transformation-gtti-university-science-engineering-technology}$

Cabinet approves transformation of GTTI into University of Science annex http://www.statehouse.gm/cabinet-approves-transformation-gtti-univers...

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Ceremonial (/news-categories/ceremonial)

Cabinet approves transformation of GTTI into University of Science, Engineering, Technology

In its sixth Session presided over by His Excellency, President Adama Barrow, Cabinet has approved the proposal by Ministry of Higher Education to transform the country's tertiary technical institute into a university of Engineering, Science and Technology.

"The transformation of the GTTI into a University is expected to create opportunities to address the high level skills gaps within the Gambian workforce," the Minster of Information, Ebrima Sillah said in a statement to the media at the end of the Cabinet deliberations on Thursday.

The transformation will also accord the emergent university to retain its current responsibilities to augment and improve the quality and relevance of these programmes. It will also strengthen technical certificate and diploma levels while responding to critical needs to offer degree programmes in Science, Engineering and technology, Minister Sillah explained.

The Cabinet also discussed and approved other key issues, among them the Master Plan and Proposed Development Project of Banjul Sea Port, the management of bird and wildlife hazard of the Banjul Airport, to develop a waste management control programme for the airport, The Gambia's leading legal action against Myanmar at the international Court of Justice to ensure accountability and justice for the gross violations of the rights of Rohingyan Muslims, among others.

Below is the full text of the statement:

The conclusions of the 6th Cabinet Meeting held on Thursday 4th July 2019

Cabinet deliberated on a paper presented by the Hon Minister of Transport, Works ad Infrastructure on the National Launching of the GPA Masterplan and the 4th Banjul Port Development project.

The new Masterplan aims to address the capacity improvement needs in order to enhance Port competitiveness and contribute towards the achievements of the National Development Plan and the National Transport Policy (2018 - 2027).

The Masterplan and the proposed Port Development Project are expected to take the Port of Banjul and indeed the country to another level as the traffic forecast will increase remarkably which will have positive impact on the overall economic development of the country. Top

Hon Minister of Transport, Works ad Infrastructure also presented an information paper on the way forward on

(*i*) the challenges of bird/wildlife hazard management at Banjul International Airport. The Hon Minister of Works recommended the following measures to mitigate the risks posed by birds and wildlife to aircrafts at the Banjul International Airport.

To review land allocation around the airport and where necessary, control land use; To finalize the airport lease with emphasis on increasing the buffer area; To develop a waste management and control programme to eliminate existing waste dumps and prevent the establishment of new waste disposal dumps within 13km radius of the airport boundary. To setup a national aviation wildlife hazard management committee which includes representation of officials from government departments, environmental, conservation and bird and wildlife organizations and agencies and aviation stakeholders.

Cabinet endorsed the recommendations by the Hon Minister of Works to reinforce efforts to manage the hazards posed by birds and wildlife to aircrafts at the Banjul International Airport and reducing the risks to aircrafts and air travel passengers.

The Hon Attorney General and Minister of Justice presented a paper on the OIC proposal for The Gambia to lead the international legal action against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice. It would be recalled that at its 45th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Bangladesh, the OIC setup an ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingyas. The Gambia was unanimously selected to chair the said ad hoc committee.

Some of the responsibilities of the ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingyas is to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian law against the Rohingyas. The committee is also to assist in information gathering and evidence collection as well as mobilize and coordinate international political support for accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingyas Muslims.

Cabinet has approved the proposal of the OIC for The Gambia to lead the international legal action against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Cabinet also approved the appointment of the Hon Attorney General and Minister of Justice to represent The Gambia throughout the proceedings at the ICJ.

The Hon Minister of Interior also presented a paper on The Gambia National Migration Policy 2019. The Policy among other things, aims to manage migration in a manner that contributes to national development including the promotion of diaspora engagement and reduction of brain drain and its potential impacts. The policy also seeks to ensure the protection of vulnerable Gambian migrants and immigrants in The Gambia and work towards the eradication of human trafficking and smuggling while at the same time encourage the participation of Gambians abroad in economic activities at home, through foreign direct investments and social remittances. Cabinet endorsed the National Migration Policy and some insightful suggestions.

Cabinet also endorsed a Paper presented by the Hon Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and

(/) Technology to transform The Gambia Technical Training Institute (GTTI) into a University of Science, Engineering and Technology. The transformation of GTTI into a university will accord the emergent university to retain its current responsibilities to augment and improve the quality and relevance of these programs. The transformation will also strengthen Technical Skills at certificate and diploma levels while responding to critical needs to offer, in The Gambia, degree programs in Sciences, Engineering and Technology.

The transformation of the GTTI into a University of Science, Engineering and Technology is expected to create opportunities to address the high level skills gaps within The Gambian workforce.

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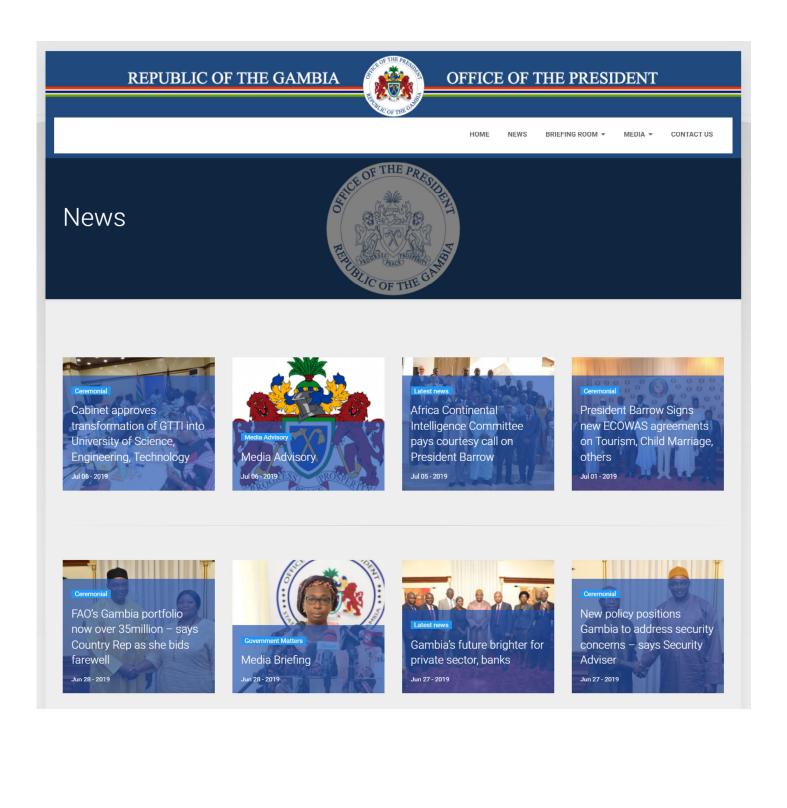
Eulogy delivered by President Adama Barrow at the State Funeral of Former President, Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara



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President Barrow visited victims of the Faraba Banta incident at the Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital in Banjul

Тор



The Gambia, Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of The Gambia to the UN to the Permanent Mission of Myanmar to the UN, 11 October 2019



THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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GPM/NV241/Vol.1(LY)

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of The Gambia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and has the honour to refer to all of the reports of the United Nations Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar ("UN IIFFMM"), including its report of 16 September 2019, UN Doc. A/HRC/42.CRP.5, as well as related resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, including Resolution No. 4/46-MM of 2 March 2019 on the Situation of the Muslim Community in Myanmar.

The Republic of The Gambia is deeply troubled by the findings of the UN IIFFMM, and in particular its findings regarding the ongoing genocide against the Rohingya people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in violation of Myanmar's obligations under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide ("Genocide Convention"). The Gambia considers those findings well-supported by the evidence and highly credible, and is disturbed by Myanmar's absolute denial of those findings and its refusal to acknowledge and remedy its responsibility for the ongoing genocide against the Rohingya population of Myanmar, as required under the Genocide Convention and customary international law.

The Gambia fully endorses OIC Resolution No. 4/46-MM of 2 March 2019, which "Calls upon the Government of Myanmar: (a) To honor its obligations under International Law and Human Rights covenants, and to take all measures to immediately halt all vestiges and manifestations of the practice of genocide against Rohingya Muslims".¹

The Gambia emphatically rejects Myanmar's denial of its responsibility for the ongoing genocide against Myanmar's Rohingya population, and its refusal to fulfill its obligations under the Genocide Convention and customary international law.

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¹ OIC Resolution No. 4/46-mm, para. 11(a)

With somber reflection on the goals of the Genocide Convention and its obligations on all States, The Gambia understands Myanmar to be in ongoing breach of those obligations under the Convention and under customary international law. The Gambia insists that Myanmar take all necessary actions to comply with these obligations, including but not limited to its obligation to make reparations to the victims and to provide guarantees and assurances of non-repetition



Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations <u>New York</u>

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The Gambia, Oicgambia Secretariat, Press Release, "High-Level Government Delegation Attends OIC Foreign Ministers Summit", 26 November 2020

Available at:

https://www.oicgambia.org/news/-2

Home Media News & Events

November 26, 2020



HIGH-LEVEL GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ATTENDS OIC FOREIGN MINISTERS SUMMIT

Niamey, Niger, 26th November 2020 - A high-power Gambia government ministerial delegation, headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambians Abroad, Hon Momodou Tangara will attend the 47^{th} Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Niamey, Niger on $27 - 28^{th}$ November 2020

The theme of the Summit is: "United against Terrorism for Peace and Development"

The Summit will discuss pertinent issues of great interest to the Islamic Ummah, including the Gambia-backed Rohingya case at the International Court of Justice Additionally, the Palestinian cause, the fight against violence, terrorism, and extremism, Islamophobia, religious defamation, among other issues, will also be discussed

Other members of the Gambia delegation include officials from OICGambia, the Ministries of Justice, and Foreign Affairs, and the Office of the President

END.

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The Gambia, Oicgambia Secretariat, "Oicgambia Secretariat" (Web Page)

Available at:

https://www.oicgambia.org/about-secretariat

Oicgambia Secretariat - Gambia-OIC Secretariat

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About Us

Building Construction

The Oicgambia Secretariat was established in May 2018 to lead the government of The Gambia's efforts to host the 14th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in The Gambia in May 2019. However, due to time constraints, the 2019 Gambia summit was postponed to April 2022. The Secretariat is a charitable organization under the purview of the Office of the President.

Mandate

To mobilize resources, identify and implement key infrastructural projects in preparation of the Summit, and successfully organize the hosting of the 15th Islamic Summit Conference in 2022

<u>Vision</u>

To deliver a successful and memorable OIC summit while contributing to the economic, social and infrastructural development of The Gambia

Structure

The Governing Board of the Secretariat consist of the President of the Republic of The Gambia, Vice President, Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Justice, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Transport, Works, and Infrastructure, Minister for Lands and Regional Government, Minister for Interior, the Secretary-General and Head of Civil Services, and the Secretary to the Cabinet.

The Secretariat

The Secretariat is headed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and assisted by a Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO). The management comprises the following heads of department: Human Resources and Admin, Finance and Accounts, Brand and Communication, and Project Management.

The CEO also serves as the bridge between the executive committee (board) and the implementing committees.

Stakeholders and Implementing Partners

The key stakeholders of the Secretariat are: The National Roads Authority (NRA), Ministry of Transport, Works, and Infrastructure, National Water and Electricity Company (NAWEC), The Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), and The Gambia Telecommunications Company (Gamtel). They are executing agencies that implement the various development and infrastructural projects overseen by the Secertariat.

The Secretariat in collaboration with key stakeholders has established the Project Management Office (PMO), Project Coordination Office (PCO), and Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for quick delivery, smooth coordination and collaboration among the various units.

Strategic Intent

To provide the necessary resources for The Gambia to deliver a successful and memorable OIC through:

- Constituting a Supervisory Board for strategic direction and approvals (Governance)
- Mobilizing adequate financial resources to fund the programs designed for the OIC Summit
 - Improving accessibility with new strategic and renovated roads across the country

- Providing first-class accommodation facilities

- Selling The Gambia as a "go-to" destination for hosting international conferences
 - Providing opportunities for job creation especially for the youth and women

- Partnering with the private sector

The Gambia, Ministry of Justice, Tweet (@Gambia MOJ), 30 November 2020

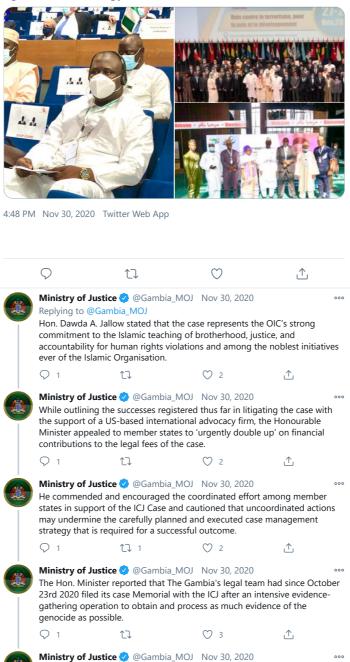
Available at:

https://twitter.com/Gambia MOJ/status/1333437876713959431

Ministry of Justice on Twitter: "The Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Dawda A. Jallow on 27th November 2020 up...



The Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Dawda A. Jallow on 27th November 2020 updated the 47th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC in Niamey, Niger on the ICJ case against Myanmar for acts of genocide perpetrated against the Rohingya Muslims.



The evidence gathering, he stated, includes two lawsuits against Twitter and Facebook in the United States for the revelation of the contents of online accounts controlled by members of the Rohingya Military. Q_1

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https://twitter.com/Gambia_MOJ/status/1333437876713959431

1] 4

Malaysia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, "Order by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on The Gambia's Request for the Indication of Provisional Measures", 23 January 2020

Available at:

https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/-/order-by-the-international-court-of-justice-icj-on-the-gambia-s-request-for-the-indication-of-provisional-measures-in-the-case-concerning-application-

ORDER BY THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) ON THE GAMBIA'S REQUEST FO...

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ORDER BY THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) ON

THE GAMBIA'S REQUEST FOR THE INDICATION OF PROVISIONAL MEASURES IN THE CASE CONCERNING APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE

PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

(THE GAMBIA V. MYANMAR), 23 JANUARY 2020

Malaysia considers the approval of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 23 January 2020 for the provisional measures requested by The Gambia in its Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide as a step in the right direction to address the situation of the Rohingya.

The ICJ unanimously prescribed four (4) provisional measures for Myanmar to prevent all acts that amount to or contribute to the crime of genocide against the Rohingya; ensure that any military, paramilitary or irregular armed units, organisations and persons which may be subject to its control, do not commit any act of genocide against the Rohingya; not destroy or render inaccessible any evidence related to the events described in The Gambia's Application; and to provide a report to the ICJ on all measures taken to give effect to the Order for provisional measures in four months and thereafter every six months, until decision on the case is rendered by the ICJ.

Malaysia is a member of the Ad-Hoc Ministerial Committee on the Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingya which was established under the ambit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). On behalf of the OIC, The Gambia, in its capacity as the Chair of the aforementioned Committee, brought the case before the ICJ.

The decision reflects the serious concern of the international community on the need to address effectively the plight of the Rohingya and establish accountability and justice in respect of alleged serious human rights violations against the Rohingya, who have been regarded as the most persecuted community in the world. Malaysia is currently hosting more than 100,000 Rohingya refugees, who had fled Myanmar due to the crisis.

As a fellow State Party to the 1948 UN Genocide Convention, Malaysia calls on Myanmar to fulfil its obligations under the Convention to ensure that the crisis is not prolonged. Malaysia wishes to reiterate its support for The Gambia. We look forward to the next proceedings of the ICJ on the Application of The Gambia, which requested the ICJ to adjudge on five matters, namely for Myanmar to be declared as breaching its obligations under the Genocide Convention; to cease forthwith any ongoing wrongful act and fully respect its obligations under the Genocide Convention; to ensure that persons committing genocide are punished by a competent tribunal; to perform the obligations of reparation in the interest of the victims of genocidal acts who are members of the Rohingya group; and to offer assurances and guarantees of non-repetition of violations of the Genocide Convention.

PUTRAJAYA 23 January 2020

Maldives, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, "Organization of Islamic Cooperation welcomes decision of the Government of Maldives to file a declaration of intervention in the International Court of Justice, in support of the Rohingya people", 11 March 2020, updated 25 June 2020

Available at:

 $\underline{https://www.gov.mv/en/news-and-communications/organization-of-islamicooperation-welcomes-decision-of-the-government-of-maldives-to-file-a-declaration}$

Organization of Islamic Cooperation welcomes decision of the Government of Maldives to file a declaration of intervention in the Inter...



Stay at home: Follow the advice for coronavirus (COVID-19) (/en/covid19)

برؤر English

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News

Organization of Islamic Cooperation welcomes decision of the Government of Maldives to file a declaration of intervention in the International Court of Justice, in support of the Rohingya people

OIC has welcomed the decision of the Maldives to file a declaration of intervention at the ICJ,in support of The Gambia's case against Myanmar

Published : 11 March 2020 Last updated : 25 June 2020 From Ministry of Foreign Affairs (https://www.gov.mv/en/organisations/ministry-of-foreignaffairs)

Available Languages: English

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has welcomed the decision of the Maldives to file a declaration of intervention at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), in support of The Gambia's case against Myanmar, to seek accountability for the acts of Genocide against the Rohingya people. Pakistan, on behalf of the OIC, welcomed the decision when delivering the Organization's statement during the discussion on Secretary-General's Oral Update on the Involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar. The delegate from Pakistan, on behalf of the OIC, stated that the Maldives' decision to file a declaration of intervention at the ICJ to facilitate The Gambia's case adds crucial momentum for the pursuit of justice for the Rohingya people.

The OIC considers the plight of the Rohingya people to be one of the most important issues faced by the Islamic Ummah. In 2018, during the OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh, it was decided to establish an 1/3/2021 Organization of Islamic Cooperation welcomes decision of the Government of Maldives to file a declaration of intervention in the Inter...

"Ad-Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya", with The Gambia as the Chair. In 2019, during the OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers meeting held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, the OIC adopted a unanimous resolution to file a case at the ICJ to restore the human rights of all Rohingya people. In 2019, during the 14th Islamic Summit held in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, the Heads of States of the OIC endorsed the Final Communique of the Summit which gave authority to The Gambia, on behalf of the OIC, to pursue the case at the ICJ with a view to restoring the basic human rights of the Rohingya people, and to hold the perpetrators accountable.

Following the imposition of provisional measures on the Government of Myanmar by the ICJ, to stop acts of Genocide, the Maldives' decision to file a declaration of intervention was welcomed throughout the Islamic world, including the 57 Member States of the OIC. This decision by the Maldives has also been welcomed by many of the Rohingya diaspora and groups advocating for the human rights of Rohingya people.

The decision to file the declaration of intervention in the ICJ was announced by His Excellency Abdulla Shahid, Minister of Foreign Affairs, during his remarks at the High-level Segment of the ongoing session of the Human Rights Council. The Maldives has consistently advocated for accountability against the perpetrators of violence against the Rohingya people, the provision of unfettered humanitarian access to UN personnel, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar.

ENDS

<u>Organisatio</u>	<u>ns</u>	<u>News</u>	Regulations	Publications	
Statistics	Statistics Jobs and Procurement				

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Myanmar, Pyithu Hluttaw, Motion for the Union Government to ratify, with two reservations, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948, 2 September 1955 (original and unofficial translation) ၅၃၆

မြည်သူ့လွှတ်တော်

စက်ဘင်္ဘလ ၂ ရက်၊

အစီရင်ခံစၥ

ပြည်ထောင်စု မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်ပါလီမန် မဲဆန္ဒနယ်များ ပြန်လည်သတ်မှတ်ရန် လွှတ်တော်နှစ်ရစ်တွဲဖက်ကော်မီတီ၏အစီရင်ခံစာကို တင်ပြခြင်း

၀န်ကြီးဦးခင်ဗောင်လတ်။ ။ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးခင်ဗျား၊ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ပါလီမန် မဲဆန္ဒနယ်များ ပြန်လည်သတ်မှတ်ရန် လွှတ်တော်နှစ်ရစ် တွဲဖက်ကော်မီတီ၏ အစီရင်ခံစာကိုတင်ပြရန် ခွင့်တောင်းပါတယ်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ၊ ။ခွင့်ပြုပါတယ်။

၀န်ကြီးဦးခင်ဗောင်လတ်။ ။ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးခင်ဗျား၊ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် ပါလီမန်မဲဆန္ဒနယ်များ ပြန်လည်သတ်မှတ်ရန် လွှတ်တော်နှစ်ရပ်မှခန့်ထားသည့်တွဲဖက် ကော်ခြီတို၏အစိရင်ခံစာကိုတင်ပြပါတယ်။

အဆို

၁၉၄၈ ခုနှစ်တွင် ကုံလသမဂ္ဂ၌ တင်သွင်း*ဆွေး*နွေးသောလူမျိုးပြန်းတိးဧေမှုကို တားဆီးရန်နှင့် ပြစ်ဒဏ်ပေးရန် နိုင်ငံပေါင်းစုံ သဘောတူစာချုဝ်ကို ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရက ခြွင်းချက် ၂ ရုဝ် နှင့် လ**က်ခံအ**တည်ပြုရန်

စန်ကြီး ဦးခင်မောင်လတ်။ ။ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးခင်ဗျား၊ ၁၉၄ဂ ခုနှစ်တွင် ကူလ သမဂ္ဂ၌ တင်သွင်း ဆွေးနွေးသော လူမျိုးပြန်းတီးစေမှုကို တားဆီးရန်နှင့် ပြစ်ဒဏ်ပေး ရန် နိုင်ငံပေါင်းစုံ သဘောတူစာချုပ် (Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Crime of Genocide) ကိုပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရက အောက်ပါ ခြွင်းချက် ၂ ရဝ်နှင့် လက်ခံအတည်ပြရန် ဤလွှတ်တော်က သဘောတူ သည်။

စာချုပ်အဝိုဒ် ၆ အတွက်ခြင်းချက်

"With reference to Article VI, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that nothing contained in the said Article shall be construed as depriving the Courts and Inbunals of the Union of Jurisdiction or as giving foreign Courts and tribunals jurisdiction over any cases of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III committed within the Union: t ritery."

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စာချုပ်အမိုဒ် ဂ အတွက် ခြင်းချက်

"With reference to Article III, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that the said Article shall not apply to the Union." ທຸລວາສະລິດຈີ ຫင်သွင်းပါတယ်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးင်ေဗျား၊ သည်အဆိုတင်လွှင်းတဲ့ နေရာမှာ အနည်းအကျဉ်း သည်အဆို နှင့် ပင်ာသက်ပြီး ရှင်းပြဲဘို့ လိုလိန့်မည်လို့ ကျွန်တော်ယူဆပါတယ်။ ကျွန်တော် ပထမ ဦးဆုံး ရှင်းပြချင်တာက Genocide ဆိုတဲ့ ပြစ်မှုဟာ ဘာလဲဆိုတာ အတိုချုံးပြီး ရှင်းပြချင်ပါတယ်။ ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးခင်ဗျား၊ ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးနှင့်တကွ လွှတ်တော်တရဝ်လုံးက သည်ကိစ္စကို လေ့လာပြီးပြီလို့ ကျွန်တော်ယူဆတဲ့ အတွက် စပ်တိုတိုအစီရင်ခံရမည် ဆိုလျှင် Genocide ဆိုတာဟာ လူမှိုးတမျိုးကိုဖြစ်စေ၊ လူစုတစုကိုဖြစ်စေ သတ်ဖြတ် ခြင်း၊ ပြွန်းတီးခြင်းဆိုတဲ့ အဓိပ္ပါယ်ပေ ၊ ပါတယ်။ ဥပမာတခုတင်ပြရမည်ဆိုလျှင် ကမ္ဘာ စစ်ကြီးမဖြစ်မီက နာဇဝါဒဟာ ဂူ၁ဖော်ပြည်မှာ လွှမ်းမိုးပြီး ရဟူဒီလူမျိုးများကို သတ် ဖြတ်ခဲ့ဘဲ့ သာဓကကြီးဟာဖြင့် Genocide ဆိုတဲ့ လူမျိုးပြန်းတီးပျက်စီးမှုဆိုတဲ့ အခုက မှာ အထင်ပေါ်ဆုံး သာဓကဖြစ်တယ်လို့ ကျွန်တော်ထင်မြင်ပါတယ်။

ဒုတိယအချက်က သည်သဘောတူညီချက်က ဘယ်လိုဖြင့်ပေါ်လာတယ်ဆိုတာ ကျွန်တော်တင်ပြလိုပါတယ်။ ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးခင်များ၊ သည်သဘောတူညီချက် ဖြစ်ပေါ်လာ တာက ၁၉၄၆ ခုနှစ်ကစင်္ပြီး ကုလသမဂ္ဂတာ ပေါ်လာပါတယ်။ ကမ္ဘာ့ကုလသမဂ္ဂ ကနေပြီး Genocide ဆိုတဲ့ လူမျိုးပြွန်းတီးစေမှုဟာ အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ ဥပဒေမှာ အင်တေန်ကြီးကျယ်တဲ့ ပြစ်မှုကြီးတခုဖြစ်တယ်လို့ဆိုတာ သတ်မှတ်ခဲ့ပါတယ်။ တာတွင် မကသေးပါဘူး၊ ကမ္ဘာ့ကုလသမဂ္ဂရည်ရွယ်ချက်တွေ့နှင့် မြောင့်မြောင့်ကြီး ဆန့်ကျင်နေ တယ်ဆိုတာကိုယိုတုန်းက ထုတ်ဖေါ်ကျေညာခဲ့ပါတယ်။ တာတွင်မကသေးပါ့ဘူး၊ ယဉ် ကျေးနေတဲ့ ကမ္ဘာလောကကြီးမှာ လူသားစုတရပ်လုံးအတွက် အင်မတန် မုန်းတီး စရာ၊ အောနူလုံးနာစရာ ဖြစ်တဲ့ ကိစ္စလို့ ကျေညာခဲ့ပါတယ်။ အဲသည်လို ကျေညာပြီး တဲ့နောက် သည်သဘောတူညီချက် စာချုပ်ကို သဘောတူညီကြဘိုအတွက် ၃ ကြိမ် မြောက် General Assembly ကမ္ဘာ့ကုလသမဂ္ဂ အထွေထွေညီလာခံကြီးမှာ တင် ပြရီး ၁၉၄ဂ ခုနှစ်က ဆွေးနွေးခဲ့ကြပါတယ်။ အဲသည်လို ဆွေးနွေးပြီးတဲ့နောက် နိုင်ငံပေါင်းများစွာက လက်မှတ်ထိုး ထောက်ခံကြပါတယ်။ အဲသည်လို ထောက်ခံတဲ အတိုင်း ဗမာပြည် ကိုယ်စားလှယ်တော်မူားဟာ ၁၉၄၉ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်္ဘာလ ၃၁ ရက် နေက ယခုတင်ပြထားတဲ့ ခြင်းချက်နှင့်သဘောတူညီချက်ကို လက်မှတ်ထိုးခဲ့တယ်ဆိုတာ ကျွန်တော်စေါ်ပြလိုပါတယ်။

တကိယအချက်အနေဖြင့် ကျွန်တော်ရှင်းပြချင်တာက အခြားအရေးကြီးတဲ့ အချက် ဘယ်အချက်ပါတယ်ဆိုတာ ကျွန်တော် ရှင်းပြလိုပါတယ်။ သည်ထဲမှာ ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးသိ တော်မူတဲ့အတိုင်း အရေးအကြီးဆုံးကတော့ အင်မတန်ရွှိ ရှာစရာကောင်းတဲ့ လူတမျိုးက တမျိုးကို အနိုင်ကျင့်တယ်၊ လူတစုက တစုကို အနိုင်ကျင့်တယ်ဆိုတဲ့ ကိစ္စရပ်များဟာ စစ်ကြီးမြေစီမီက ပေါ်ပေါက်ခဲ့ပါတယ်။ စစ်ကြီးအတွင်းက အများဆုံး ပြင်းထန်ခဲ့ပါ တယ်။ သည်ဖက်ပိုင်းမှာ နောင်ကိုလည်း သည်လိုကိစ္စမျိုး မဖြစ်ပေါ်အောင်၊ ဖြစ်ပျက် နေကြတဲ့ နိုင်ငံများမှာလည်း ပပျောက်သွားအောင်၊ အခြားနိုင်ငံများမှာလည်း မဖြစ်

ပြည်သူ့လွှတ်<mark>တော</mark>်

[ဦးခင်မောင်လတ်]

ပေါ်အောင် သည်သဘောတူညီချက် စာချုပ်ကို ဖန်တီးခဲ့တယ်ဆိုတာ တတိယအချက် အနေနှင့် မြင်ဘို့အရေးကြီးပါတယ်။ တာတွေတွင် မကသေးပါဘူး၊ ကျွန်တော်တို့ နိုင်ငံ အနေဖြင့် ကြည့်မည်ဆိုလျှင် သည်နေ့အထိ ရဲရဲတင်းတင်းပြောရဲပါတယ်။ လူတစုနှင့် တစုဖြစ်စေ၊ ဘာသာတခုနှင့်တခု ကိုးကွယ်တဲ့ လူမျိုးအလိုက်ဖြစ်စေ၊ လူတစုအလိုက် ဖြစ်စေ သည်နေ့အထိ သည်ကိစ္စမျိုး မပေါ်သေးပါဘူး။ နောင်ကိုလည်း ပေါ်စရာ အကြောင်း မရှိဘူး။ သည်နေ့အထိ အာဏာယူပြီး တိုင်းပြည်မှာ တာဝန်ယူနေတဲ့ အဖွဲ့အနေနှင့် သည်ကိစ္စရပ်တွေကို မုန်းတီးတဲ့ အတွက် အဖက်ဖက်က သည်လိုက်စွရပ် တွေ မပေါ်အောင် ဥပဒေအရသော်၎င်း၊ လက်တွေအားဖြင့် သော်၎င်း လုပ်ခဲ့တာ တွေ့ရှိပါတယ်။ ယခုအပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ ဥပဒေထဲမှာ သည်လိုလူမျိုးပြန်းတီးစေခြင်းဟာ အပြစ်တခုဖြစ်တယ်ဆိုပြီး သတ်မှတ်လာတဲ့ အချိန်မှာ ကျွန်တော်တို့က လိုက်လိုက် ရောရော လေးလေးနက်နက် ထောက်ခံကြောင်း၊ ထိုစဉ်အခါတုန်းကလည်း ကျွန်တော် တို့ရုံကိုယ်စားလှယ်တော်များဟာ ဝင်ရောက်ဆွေးနွေးရုံမကဘဲ လွှတ်တော်မှာ သဘော တူ စာချုပ်ကို ခြင်းချက်နှင့် လက်ခံဘို တင်ပြခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ ကျွန်တော်တို့ နိုင်ငံမှာ ဆိုလျှင် တကယ်လို့များ သည်နေ့အထိ ဖြစ်ပေါ်ခြင်းမရှိသေး၊ နောင်ကိုလည်း ဖြစ်ပေါ် စရာ အကြောင်းမရှိသော်လည်း အချို့ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်များကစိုးရိမ်တယ်ဆိုပြီး စိုးရိမ်ချက်ရှိလျှင် ချုပ်ဆိုခြင်းအားဖြင့် သည်စိုးရိမ်ချက်ဟုာ လုံးဝပပျောက်သွားစရာ သည်စာချုပ် အကြောင်းမြင်တဲ့ အတွက် သည်စာချုပ်ကို လွှတ်တော်ကြီးက လက်ခံအတည်ပြဘို ကောင်းတယ်လိုယူဆပါတယ်။

ခြွင်းချက်ဆိုတဲ့ အဝိုင်းကို စတုတ္ထအချက် အနေဖြင့် ရှင်းပြချင်ပါတယ်။ ခြွင်းချက် ၂ ခုဟာ အ၃ိုးခ် ၆ နှင့် အဝိုးခ် ဂ ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ အဲသည် ၂ ခုအနက် အထူးသဖြင့် အပိုဒ် ဂ မှာ ဘယ်လိုပါနေသလဲဆိုလျင် သည်လို ကိစ္စများ ပေါ်ပေါက်တယ်ဆိုပြီး ယခုလက်မှတ်ထိုးထားတဲ့ နိုင်ငံတနိုင်ငံက ကုလသမဂ္ဂကို တိုင်တန်းခဲ့လျှင် ကုလသမဂ္ဂ တစိတ်ဟဒေသဖြစ်တဲ့ သက်ဆိုင်ရာ ဒေသက အရေးသူနိုင်တယ်ဆိုတဲ့ အပိုဒ်ပါဘဲ။ အဲသည်အပိုဒ်ကို သဘောမတူနိုင်ဘူးလို့ ခြွင်းချက်ထားခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ အငိုဒ် ၆ မှာလည်း သည်သဘော ပေါက်ပါတယ်။ အဲသည် ၂ ခုကို ချန်လှပ်ပြီး အခြားအပိုဒ် အားလုံးကို ထောက်ခံထားခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ အဲတာကို ဘာကြောင့် သဘောမတူ သလဲဆိုလျှင် နိုင်ငံတနိုင်ငံအတွင်းမှာ သည်လိုကိစ္စများ ဖြစ်ခဲ့သည်ရှိသော်၊ မိုးမပြံဘူး ပြိုခဲ့သည်ရှိသော် ပထခလက်ခံထားတဲ့ မူအရ သည်လိုမဖြစ်စေရဘူးလို့ လက်ခံထား ရှိတဲ့ သဘောတူညီချက်ထဲမှာ သည်လိုကိစ္စမူား ပေါ်ပေါက်ခဲ့လျှင် သက်ဆိုင်ရာ တိုင်းပြည်မှာရှိနေတဲ့ သက်ဆိုင်ရာ အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဘက်ကဖြစ်စေ၊ တရားစိရင်ရေးဘက် တာဝန်ယူဖြေရှင်းရမည်လို့ အချက်တချက်ပါပြီးသား ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ က ဖြစ်စေ တာကြောင့် တိုင်းပြည်တပြည်အတွင်းမှာ ဖြစ်ပျက်တဲ့ကိစ္စတရပ်ကို ထိုတိုင်းပြည်မှာ ဖြစ်ပျက်နေတဲ့ လူစုနှင့် သက်ဆိုင်တာကို အပြင်ဘက်က ဝင်ရောက်စွက်ဖက်ခြင်းကို မလိုလားဘူးဆိုတဲ့ ခြွင်းချက် ၂ ခုထားပြီး သည်သဘောတူညီချက်ကို သည့်လွှတ် တော်က သဘောတူပါမည့်အကြောင်း တင်ပြချင်တဲ့ အတွက် ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးမှတဆင့် လွှတ် တော်ကို လေးစားစွာ အစီရင်ခံမြင်း ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။

စန်ကြီး သခင်ကျော်ထွန်း။ ။ကျွန်တော်က ထောက်ခံပါတယ်။

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ဥတ္တန္။ ။အဆိုမှာ--

၁၉၄၀ ခုနှစ်တွင်၊ ကုလသမဂ္ဂ၌ တင်သွင်းဆွေးနွေး သောလူမျိုးပြန်းတီးစေမှုကို ယားဆီးရန်နှင့်ပြစ်ဒက်ဝေး ရန်နိုင်ငံပေါင်းစုံ သဘောကုစာချစ် (Convertion for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide) ကိုပြည်ထောင်စု မြန်ခာနိုင်ငံ တော်အစိုးရက အောက်ပါခြင်းချက် ၂ ရပ်နှင့် လက်ခံ အတည်ပြရန် ဤလွှတ်တော်ကသဘောတူသည်။

စာချုပ်အပိုဒ် ၆ ခြွင်းချက်

"With reference to Article VI, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that nothing contained in the said Article shall be construed as depriving the Courts and tribunals of the Union of jurisdiction or as giving foreign Courts and tribunals jurisdiction over any cases of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III committed within the Union territory."

စာချစ်အမိုဒ် ၀ ခြင်းချက်

"With reference to Article VIII, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that the said Article shall not apply to the Union." [လွှတ်တော်ကသဘောတူသဖြင့် အဆိုအတည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်]

နယူးရောက်ဖြို့၌ ၁၉၅၃ နနစ်၊မတ်လ ၃၀ ရက်နေ့မှစ၍လက်မှတ်ရေးထိုးရန်ဇွင့်လှစ် ထားသည့် အမျိုးသမီးများအား နိုင်ငံရေးအနွင့်အရေး ကိစ္စများတွင် အခွင့်အရေး ပေးခြင်းနှင့်စစ်လျဉ်းသော စာချုစ်ကို ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်ပာနိုင်ငံတော် အစိုးရထ ထက်ခံအထည်ဖြူရန်

၀န်ကြီး ဦးစစ်စောင်လတ်၊ ။ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီး ခင်ဗျား၊ "နယူး ရောက် နို့၌ ၁၉၅ ၃ ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လ ၃၀ ရက်နေ့မှစ၍ လက်မှတ်နေးထိုးရန် ဇွင့်လှစ်ထားသည် အမျိုးသမီးများအားနိုင်ငံရေးအခွင့်အရေးကိစ္စများတွင်အခွင့်အရေးပေးခြင်းနှင့်စစ်လျဉ်း သောစာချုပ်ကိုပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရက လက်ခံအတည်ပြုံရန် ဤလွှတ် တော်ကသဘောတူသည် ဟူသော အဆိုကိုကျွန်တော်တင်သွင်းပါတယ်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီးခင်ဗျား၊ သည်အဆိုကတော့ ဥက္ကဋ္ဌကြီး သိတော်မူတဲ့အတိုင်း ကျွန် တော်တို့နိုင်ငံနှင့်ယှဉ်ပြီး ကြည့်မည်ဆိုခဲ့လို့ရှိလျှင် သိပ်ဖြီးတော့ထူးခြားတဲ့ အဆိုတော်တ ဘူးလို့ဆိုရပါလိမ့်မည်။ သို့သော်လည်း သည်အဆိုကို လွှတ်တော်ကိုတင်ပြီး လွှတ်တော် ရဲ့သဘောတူညီချက်ကို ယူခြေင်းဟာ ဘာကြောင့်ယူရတယ်ဆိုတဲ့ မေးခွန်းကိုမေးလာ ခဲ့လျှင် ကျွန်တော်တို့နိုင်ငံမှာ အမျိုးသမီးတွေနှင့် ပတ်သက်ပြီးတာ့ နိုင်ငံရေးအခွင့်

SAG

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Unofficial Translation

PyithuHluttaw

2nd September, 1955

MOTION

For the Union Government to ratify, with two reservations, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948

Minister U Khin Maung Latt (Minister of Judicial Affairs): Respected Mr. Speaker, I move that Parliament, the Hluttaw, is in agreement that the Union Government should ratify, with two reservations, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948.

The proposed reservations are as follows:-

Reservation on Article VI of the Convention

"With reference to Article VI, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that nothing contained in the said Article shall be construed as depriving the Courts and tribunals of the Union of jurisdiction or as giving foreign Courts and tribunals jurisdiction over any cases of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III committed within the Union territory."

Reservation on Article VIII of the Convention

"With reference to Article VIII, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that the said Article shall not apply to the Union."

Respected Mr. Speaker, in making this motion, I think that need to provide a brief explanation about it. First of all, I would like to briefly explain what the crime of genocide is. Respected Mr. Speaker, since I believe thatyou and the other members of this assemblyhave already studied this matter, I will be very brief with my explanation. In short, genocide means killing or destruction of a race or a group. For example, the spread of Nazism throughout Germany before the World War and the killing of the Jews thereafter represent what I believe is the most obvious example of genocide.

Second, I would like to explain how this Convention was conceived. The United Nations was established in 1946, and the UN determined thatgenocide constitutesone of the gravest crimesunder international law. Not only that, the UN declared that genocide directly runs counter to its founding objectives. The UN further declared that genocide is considered as something very abhorrent and repugnant in the civilized world. Therefore, thisConvention was proposed and deliberated fully at the 3rd United Nations General Assembly in 1948. Thereafter, many UN member states signed the Genocide

Convention. The representatives of the Union of Burma also supported and signed the Convention on 31^{st} December 1949 with the two reservations which I have just mentioned.

Third, I would like to explain other matters of importance. As the respected Mr. Speaker is already aware of, it is important to note that abhorrent persecutions of one race by another or one group of people by another group had occurred even before the World War. It exacerbated during the World War.It is important for us to understand that the Convention has been created to prevent these abhorrent acts from happening again in the future, stop these acts in countries where it is happening and that they do not happen in other countries. Not only that, if we look at our country, I dare say with utmost confidence that here in our country no genocidal act against a group based on ethnicity or religion has ever occurred. And there is no reason to happen in the future. The incumbent government does not tolerate such acts and thus has taken all necessary legal and practical measures to prevent the occurrence of such acts. We were profoundly supportive of the Convention when it recognized genocide as a crime under international law. The representatives of Burma not only participated in the deliberations, we are now before parliament to request ratification of the Convention with two reservations. Although, acts of genocide havenot occurrednor will they occur in the future, some individuals may have some concerns or worries. So, it is reasonable to believe that adopting theConvention will completely allay their concerns. For this reason, may I respectfully ask this Assembly to kindly agree to the ratification the Genocide Convention.

Fourth, I would like to provide an explanation about the reservations. The two reservations are regarding ArticlesVI andVIII. Of these two articles, Article VIII in particular, says if any onecontracting party accuses another state party of committing genocide and submits a complaint to the United Nations, the relevant organ of the United Nations could take action. We made a reservation stating that we cannot agree with the provision of Article VIII. Article VIhas a similar meaning. Except for these two articles, we supported all the other ones. The reason we made reservations is this: even if acts of genocide were to occur within a state party, and even if the sky were to fall, applicable provisions are already present in the Convention, which obligates either the relevant executive or judicial organs within the respective state parties to take necessary action. We made the two reservations because what happens internally in a country concerns the people of that country and that outside interference is undesirable for what happens internally in a state party.On that premise, we are hereby reporting through you, Respected Speaker, to seek the agreement of Parliamentto ratify the Convention with these two reservations.

Minister Thakhin Kyaw Tun: I second the motion.

Speaker: The motion is:

The Pyithu Hluttaw approves the ratification of the 1948 Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide by the Union of Burma with the following reservations.

Reservation on Article VI of the Convention

"With reference to Article VI, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that nothing contained in the said Article shall be construed as depriving the Courts and tribunals of the Union of jurisdiction or as giving foreign Courts and tribunals jurisdiction over any cases of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III committed within the Union territory."

Reservation on Article VIII of the Convention

"With reference to Article VIII, the Union of Burma makes the reservation that the said Article shall not apply to the Union."

[The motion is approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw.]

Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, "Highlights of the 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting held in Dhaka 5-6 May 2018", 6 May 2018

Available at:

http://mofa.gov.pk/highlights-of-45th-oic-council-of-foreign-ministers-meeting-held-indhaka-5-6-may-2018/

Highlights of 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting held in Dhaka 5-6 May 2018 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Highlights of 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting held in Dhaka 5-6 May 2018

(2018-05-06) The 45th Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) was concluded in Dhaka on 6 May 2018. The Pakistani delegation was led by Foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua.

One of the main highlights of this Session was the strong support demonstrated by the OIC member states to the just cause of the Kashmiri people through adoption of resolutions and endorsement of the report of the recently held OIC Contact Group on Jammu & Kashmir.

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Highlights of 45th OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting held in Dhaka 5-6 May 2018 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs



annexed to the report. The Foreign Secretary, in her statement at the Conference, as well as during a brainstorming session on humanitarian challenges and in her meetings inter alia, focused on the issue of Jammu & Kashmir. She also thanked the OIC member states for their consistent support to the cause.

The Foreign Secretary also spoke at length about the tragic plight of the Rohingya Muslims and Palestinians and expressed Pakistan's full solidarity with them.

Just before the conclusion of the Conference, the host country circulated text of Dhaka Declaration. It only reflected the views of the host country, and therefore, issued under its own responsibility, signifying that the text was neither discussed nor negotiated by participating States. The Declaration is without prejudice to the well established positions of OIC member states and the organization, as enshrined in the CFM and Summit documents.

On the sidelines of the Conference, the Foreign Secretary met OIC Secretary General, Foreign Ministers of Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Minister of State of Uganda, her counterparts from Morocco, Malaysia, Tunis, Indonesia and heads of delegation of several other OIC countries. Resolution on Jammu & Kashmir



Pakistan expresses gratitude for reaffirmation of OIC's

steadfast support on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute during 47th CFM Session in Niger

United Kingdom, House of Commons, "Myanmar: January 2020 update", Briefing Paper, No. 8443, 7 January 2020 [extract]

Available at:

https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8443/CBP-8443.pdf



BRIEFING PAPER

Number 8443, 7 January 2020

Myanmar: January 2020 update

By Jon Lunn

Contents: 1. The Rohingya crisis 2. Other developments



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9 Commons Library Briefing, 18 January 2020

critical of the Myanmar government. However, the Security Council hataken a less prominent role since then. With China and Russia opposed to referring Myanmar to the ICC, a Security Council referral remains highly unlikely.

Also in April 2018, the Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, appointed a special envoy to Myanmar, Christine Schraner-Burgener. In marked contrast to representatives of UN human rights mechanisms, she has been able to <u>visit</u> the country four times and has met .

In September 2018, another UN fact-finding mission – this time established by the UN Human Rights Council – led by Marzuki Darusman called on the Security Council to refer the Rohingya crisis to the ICC. Its <u>report</u> said that the head of the army and other senior leaders should be investigated and prosecuted. It also directly criticised Aung San Suu Kyi for inaction and argued that the government had been complicit in "atrocity crimes". The Myanmar government rejected the conclusions of the fact-finding mission.

In late-September 2018, the UN Human Rights Council approved the establishment of an <u>Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar</u> (IIMM) to collect evidence into case files linked to specific individuals.

In August 2019 Darusman's fact-finding mission submitted its <u>final</u> <u>report</u>. Amongst other things, it identified a pattern of continuing attacks by the Myanmar security forces "aimed at erasing the identity of Rohingya and removing" them from the country.

The fact-finding mission's mandate ended in September 2019, at which time it handed over its evidence to the IIMM, by now headed by Nicolas Koumjian, which made its <u>first visit</u> to Bangladesh in November 2019. The IIMM has a mandate, if it so chooses, to share information with the ICC Prosecutor.

Despite the inactivity of the Security Council, the ICC has become active on the issue of accountability. In September 2018 it ruled that it has jurisdiction over the alleged forced deportation of Rohingya to Bangladesh. It did so on the grounds that, while Myanmar is not a party to the Rome Statute, Bangladesh is, and parts of the alleged crime took place on its territory. The Myanmar government rejected the ruling. In November 2019 the ICC <u>authorised</u> the Prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, to begin an investigation. Aung San Suu Kyi has repeatedly said that Myanmar will not cooperate with the Court.

While the IIMM and ICC Prosecutor have only recently begun their respective investigations, things have moved somewhat more swiftly before the UN's principal judicial body, the International Court of Justice (ICJ). In November 2019 The Gambia brought a <u>case</u> to the ICJ against Myanmar on behalf of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The <u>allegations</u> against Myanmar include responsibility for genocidal acts against the Rohingya and failure to prevent and punish genocide.

At a hearing on 10-12 December The Gambia asked the ICJ to order "provisional measures", the equivalent of an injunction in domestic law,

United States, Senate, Report of the Acting Secretary of State, an enclosure to the "Message from the President of the United States", in *The Genocide Convention: Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations*, Eighty-first Congress, Second Session, 23-25 January and 9 February 1950 [extract]

Available at:

https://hdl.handle.net/2027/umn.31951d020947893

THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION

HEARINGS BEFORE A

SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS UNITED STATES SENATE

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

Executive O

THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

JANUARY 23, 24, 25, AND FEBRUARY 9, 1950

Printed for the use of the Committee on Foreign Relations



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON : 1950

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Rusk, who is Deputy Under Secretary of State, and we also have with us Mr. Philip B. Perlman, Solicitor General of the United States, who will testify for the Department of Justice on this matter. Mr. Perlman's deep interest in this whole subject is known to all of us, and I am sure that these two witnesses will be helpful in interpreting the convention. They will be followed, I believe, by Judge Robert Patterson, an old friend of ours, a former very distinguished Secretary of War, who will speak for the United States Committee for a United Nations Genocide Convention.

Will you come right up here, Dean Rusk, and take this seat so we can get going?

Before you start perhaps I should submit for the record the message of the President.

(The message referred to is as follows:)

[Executive O, 81st Cong., 1st sess.]

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, TRANSMITTING A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE, ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN PARIS ON DECEMBER 9, 1948, AND SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES ON DECEMBER 11, 1948

To the Senate of the United States:

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THE WHITE HOUSE, June 16, 1949.

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith a certified copy of the convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide, adopted unanimously by the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris on December 9, 1948, and signed on behalf of the United States on December 11, 1948.

bly of the United Nations in Paris on December 9, 1948, and signed on behalf of the United States on December 11, 1948. The character of the convention is explained in the enclosed report of the Acting Secretary of State. I endorse the recommendations of the Acting Secretary of State in his report and urge that the Senate advise and consent to my ratification of this convention.

tion of this convention. In my letter of February 5, 1947, transmitting to the Congress my first annual report on the activities of the United Nations and the participation of the United States therein, I pointed out that one of the important achievements of the General Assembly's first session was the agreement of the members of the United Nations that genocide constitutes a crime under international law. I also emphasized that America has long been a symbol of freedom and democratic progress to peoples less favored than we have been and that we must maintain their belief in us by our policies and our acts. By the leading part the United States has taken in the United Nations in producing an effective international legal instrument outlawing the world-shocking

By the leading part the United States has taken in the United Nations in producing an effective international legal instrument outlawing the world-shocking crime of genocide, we have established before the world our firm and clear policy toward that crime. By giving its advice and consent to my ratification of this convention, which I urge, the Senate of the United States will demonstrate that the United States is prepared to take effective action on its part to contribute to the establishment of principles of law and justice.

HABBY S. TRUMAN.

(Enclosures: (1) Report of the Acting Secretary of State, (2) certified copy of convention on the prevention and punishment of genocide.)

The PRESIDENT, The White House:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, D. C.

I have the honor to transmit to you a certified copy of the convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide, adopted unanimously by the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris on December 9, 1948, with the recommendation that it be submitted to the Senate for its advice and consent to ratification.

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The convention defines genocide to mean certain acts, enumerated in article

The convention defines genocide to mean certain acts, enumerated in article II, committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such. These acts are discussed below. The basic purpose of the convention is the prevention of the destruction of a human group as such. The first resolution of the General Assembly on this subject, 96 (I), adopted unanimously by the members of the United Nations on December 11, 1946, succinctly pointed out that— "Genocide is a denial of the right of existence of entire human groups, as homicide is the denial of the right to live of individual human beings."

The resolution also pointed out that genocide shocks the conscience of man-kind, results in great losses to humanity and is contrary to moral law. Of course, homicide also is shocking, results in losses to humanity and is contrary to moral law. The distinction between those two crimes, therefore, is not a difference in underlying moral principles, because in the case of both crimes, moral principles are equally outraged. The distinction is that in homicide, the individual is the victim; in genocide, it is the group.

victim; in genocide, it is the group. The General Assembly declared in this resolution that the physical extermina-tion of human groups, as such, is of such grave and legitimate international concern that civilized society is justified in branding genocide as a crime under international law. The extermination of entire human groups impairs the self-preservation of civilization itself. The recent genocidal acts committed by the Nazi Government have placed heavy burdens and responsibilities on other countries, including our own. The millions of dollars spent by the United States alone on refugees, many of them the victims of genocide, and the special immi-gration laws designed to take care of such unfortunates illustrate how genocide can deeply affect other states. On September 23, 1948, Secretary of State Marshall stated that—

Governments which systematically disregard the rights of their own people are not likely to respect the rights of other nations and other people and are likely to seek their objectives by coercion and force in the international field."

It it not surprising, therefor, to find the General Assembly of the United Na-tions unanimously declaring that genocide is a matter of international concern. Thus, the heart of the convention is its recognition of the principle that the

prevention and punishment of genocide requires international cooperation. How-ever, the convention does not substitute international responsibility for state responsibility. It leaves to states themselves the basic obligation to protect entire human groups in their right to live. On the other hand it is designed to insure international liability where state responsibility has not been properly discharged.

The convention was carefully drafted and, indeed, represents the culmination of more than 2 years of thoughtful consideration and treatment in the United Nations, as the following important steps in its formulation demonstrate: The initial impetus came on November 2, 1946, when the delegations of Cuba,

The initial impetus came on November 2, 1946, when the delegations of Cuba, India, and Panama requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to include in the agenda of the General Assembly an additional item: the preven-tion and punlshment of the crime of genocide. The Assembly referred the Item to its Sixth (Legal) Committee for study. At its fifty-fifth plenary meeting on December 11, 1946, the Assembly adopted, without debate and unanimously, a draft resolution submitted by its Legal Com-mittee. This resolution, referred to above, affirmed that "genocide is a crime under international law." It recommended international cooperation with **a** view to facilitating the prevention and punishment of genocide, and, to this end, it requested the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to undertake the necessary studies to draw up a draft convention on the crime.

It requested the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to undertake the necessary studies to draw up a draft convention on the crime. Pursuant to this resolution a draft convention on genocide was prepared by the ad hoc Committee on Genocide in the spring of 1948, under the chairmanship of the United States representative on this committee. The draft was again discussed by the Economic and Social Council in July and August 1948 in Geneva, and then in the Legal Committee of the General Assembly at its third regular session in Paris, where again the United States delegation played an important relation the formulation of the draft convention

session in Paris, where again the United States delegation played an important role in the formulation of the draft convention. On December 9, 1948, the General Assembly unanimously adopted the con-vention to outlaw genocide, which was signed by the United States 2 days later. When signing, the United States representative said, in part: "I am privileged to sign this convention on behalf of my Government, which has been proud to take an active part in the effort of the United Nations to bring this convention into being.

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"The Government of the United States considers this an event of great im-portance in the development of international law and of cooperation among states for the purpose of eliminating practices offensive to all civilized mankind."

for the purpose of eliminating practices offensive to all civilized mankind." Genocide is a crime which has been perpetrated by man against man through-out history. Although man has always expressed his horror of this henous crime, little or no action had been taken to prevent and punish it. The years immediately preceding World War II witnessed the most diabolically planned and executed series of genocidal acts ever before committed. This time there was to be more than mere condemnation. A feeling of general repulsion swept over the world, and following the war manifested itself in the General Assembly's resolution of December 1946. It is this resolution to which the Legal Committee gave full content by providing the General Assembly with a legal instrument designed not only to prevent genocidal acts but also to punish the guilty. The genocide convention contains 19 articles. Of these, the first 9 are of a substantive character, and the remaining 10 are procedural in nature. The preamble is of a general and historical nature.

The preamble is of a general and historical nature. Article I carries into the convention the concept, unanimously affirmed by the General Assembly in its 1946 resolution, that genocide is a crime under inter national law. In this article the parties undertake to prevent and to punish the crime.

Article II specifies that any of the following five acts, if accompanied by the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, constitutes the crime of genocide: (a) Killing members of the group;

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(b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
(c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;

(d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; and
 (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.
 This article, then, requires that there should be a specific intent to destroy a racial, religious, national, or ethnical group as such in whole or in part. With respect to this article the United States representative on the Legal Committee

respect to this article the onited states representative on the Legar committee said: "I am not aware that anyone contends that the crime of genocide and the crime of homicide are one and the same thing. If an individual is murdered by another individual, or indeed by a government official of a state, a crime of homicide has been committed and a civilized community will punks it as such. Such an act of homicide would not in itself be an international crime. To repeat the opening language of the resolution of the General Assembly of December 1946, "genocide is a double of the sight of aviations of antire human groups". This remains the is a denial of the right of existence of entire human groups." This remains the principle on which we are proceeding. "However, if an individual is murdered by another individual, or by a group,

whether composed of private citizens or government officials, as part of a plan or with the intent to destroy one of the groups enumerated in article 2, the international legal crime of genocide is committed as well as the municipal-law crime of homicide." The destruction of a group may be caused not only by killing.

Bodily mutilation or disintegration of the mind caused by the imposition of stupefying drugs may destroy a group. So may sterilization of a group, as may the dispersal of its children

Article III of the convention specifies that five acts involving genocide shall be punishable. These five genocidal acts are— (a) The crime of genocide itself; (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide :

(c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide ;

(d) Attempt to commit genocide; and(e) Complicity in genocide.

The parties agree, in article IV, to punish guilty persons, irrespective of their status.

In article V the parties undertake to enact, "in accordance with their respective constitutions," the legislation necessary to implement the provisions of the con-vention. The convention does not purport to require any party to enact such legislation otherwise than in accordance with the country's constitutional provisions.

Article VI makes it clear that any person charged with the commission of any of the five genocidal acts enumerated in article III shall be tried by a court of the state in whose territory the act was committed, or by such inter-

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national penal tribunal as may have jurisdiction with respect to those states accepting such jurisdiction. Thus, the commission in American territory of genocidal acts would be tried only in American courts. No international tri-bunal is authorized to try anyone for the crime of genocide. Should such a tribunal be established, Senate advice and consent to United States ratification of any agreement establishing it would be necessary before such an agreement would be binding on the United States

would be binding on the United States. By article VII the parties agree to extradite, in accordance with their laws and treaties, persons accused of committing genocidal acts; none of such acts is to be considered a political crime for the purpose of extradition. The United States representative on the Legal Committee, in voting in favor of the convention

on December 2, 1948, said: "With respect to article VII regarding extradition, I desire to state that until the Congress of the United States shall have enacted the necessary legislation to implement the convention, it will not be possible for the Government of the United States to surrender a person accused of a crime not already extraditable under existing laws."

under existing laws." Existing United States law provides for extradition only when there is a treaty therefor in force between the United States and the demanding govern-ment. Only after Congress has defined, and provided for the punishment of, the crime of genocide, and authorized surrender therefor, will it be possible to give effect to the provisions of article VII. Article VIII recognizes the right of any party to call upon the organs of the United Nations for such action as may be appropriate under the Charter for the prevention and suppression of any of the acts enumerated in article III. This article merely affirms the right of the United Nations to call upon an organ of the United Nations in matters within its inrisdiction.

the United Nations in matters within its jurisdiction. Article IX provides that disputes between the parties relating to the interpre-tation, application, or fulfillment of the convention, including disputes relating to the responsibility of a state for any of the acts enumerated in article III, shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice, when any party to a

dispute so requests. On December 2, 1948, in voting in favor of the genocide convention, the repre-sentative of the United States made the following statement before the Legal Committee of the General Assembly :

"I wish that the following remarks be included in the record verbatim :

"I wish that the following remarks be included in the record verbatim : "Article IX provides that disputes between the contracting parties relating to the interpretation, application, or fulfillment of the present convention, including those relating to the responsibility of a state for genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in article III, shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice. If 'responsibility of a state' is used in the traditional sense of re-sponsibility to another state for injuries sustained by nationals of the complain-ing state in violation of principles of international law and similarly, if 'fulfill-ment' refers to disputes where interests of nationals of the complaining state are involved, these words would not appear to be objectionable. If, however, 'responsibility of a state' is not used in the traditional sense and if these words 'responsibility of a state' is not used in the traditional sense and if these words are intended to mean that a state can be held liable in damages for injury in-flicted by it on its own nationals, this provision is objectionable and my Govern-ment makes a reservation with respect to such an interpretation."

In view of this statement, I recommend that the Senate give its advice and consent to ratification of the convention "with the understanding that article IX shall be understood in the traditional sense of responsibility to another state for injuries sustained by nationals of the complaining state in violation of principles of international law, and shall not be understood as meaning that a state can be held liable in damages for injuries inflicted by it on its own nationals."

The remaining articles are procedural in nature. By article XIV the con-vention is to be effective for an initial period of 10 years from the date it enters into force, and thereafter for successive periods of 5 years with respect to those Parties which have not denounced the convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations at least 6 months before the expiration of the ourpart project.

Secretary-ordered of the order rations at case c money bearing the convention, Article XV provides that if there are less than 16 parties to the convention, as a result of denunciations, the convention shall cease to be in force from the effective date of the denunciation which reduces the number of parties to less than 16.

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Article XVI authorizes any party to request revision of the convention, by notification in writing to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The General Assembly shall decide upon the steps, if any, to be taken in respect of such request.

It is my firm belief that the American people together with the other peoples of the world will hall United States ratification of this convention as another concrete example of our repeatedly affirmed determination to make the United Nations the cornerstone of our foreign policy and a workable institution for international peace and security.

Respectfully submitted.

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JAMES E. WEBB, Acting Secretary.

(Enclosure: Certified copy of convention on the prevention and punishment of genocide.)

CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE The Contracting Parties.

The Contracting Parties, Having considered the declaration made by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 96 (1) dated 11 December 1946 that genocide is a crime under international law, contrary to the spirit and aims of the United Nations and condemned by the civilized world; Recognizing that at all periods of history genocide has inflicted great losses on humanity; and Being convinced that, in order to liberate mankind from such an odious scourge, international co-operation is required, Hereby agree as hereinafter provided:

ABTICLE I

The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish.

ABTICLE II

In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such

(a) Killing members of the group;
(b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
(c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
(d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
(e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

ABTICLE III

The following acts shall be punishable:

- (a) Genocide;
 (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide;
 (c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;
- (d) Attempt to commit genocide;
 (e) Complicity in genocide.

ARTICLE IV

Persons committing genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in article III shall be punished, whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals.

ABTICLE V

The Contracting Parties undertake to enact, in accordance with their respective Constitutions, the necessary legislation to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention and, in particular, to provide effective penalties for persons guilty of genocide or of any of the other acts enumerated in article III.

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United States, Senate, *Genocide Convention: Report of the Committee on Foreign Relations*, Ninety-ninth Congress, First Session, 18 July 1985 [extract]

Available at: https://hdl.handle.net/2027/mdp.39015087626142

Senate Executive Reports

Nos. 1-10



United States Congressional Serial Set

Serial Number 13626

United States Government Printing Office Washington : 1987

99TH CONGRESS 1st Session	SENATE	{ Ехес. Rept. 99-2
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	JULY 18, 1985Ordered to be	e printed
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ing; (2) the uprising involved a group of which the accused was a member; and (3) the act was incidental to the uprising. This defense would not be available where the offense for which extradition was sought was genocide.

In all other respects, however, Article VII would leave existing U.S. law with respect to extradition for the crime of genocide unchanged. A state seeking extradition would still have to present evidence to a magistrate or judge "sufficient to sustain the charge." The requirement that the acts for which extradition is sought must be criminal under the law of the United States and the requesting party would remain unchanged. An appeal of a finding adverse to the defendant would continue to lie through application for a writ of *habeas corpus*. Finally, the Secretary of State would still retain, subject to the deletion of the political offense exception, discretion to deny a request for extradition regardless of any ruling by the courts.

Role of the United Nations

ARTICLE VIII

Any Contracting Party may call upon the competent organs of the United Nations to take such action under the Charter of the United Nations as they consider appropriate for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III.

Article VIII does not impose any additional obligation on the parties. It restates the existing competence of organs of the United Nations with specific reference to acts prohibited by the Genocide Convention. It does not constitute an independent grant of authority to any United Nations organ to take actions that the organ would be unable to take absent Article VIII. Nor does it overcome any limitations contained in the United Nations Charter or elsewhere on the authority of that organ to act.

Article VIII was included to underline the fact that complaints of genocide could be brought directly to the Security Council, the General Assembly or other parts of the United Nations. Otherwise, the Convention might be interpreted as limiting complainants to the International Court of Justice.

Settlement of Disputes

ARTICLE IX

Disputes between the Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation, application or fulfillment of the present Convention, including those relating to the responsibility of a State for genocide or for any of the other acts enumerated in Article III, shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice at the request of any of the parties to the dispute.

Under Article IX, all disputes between the parties about the Convention are to be submitted to the International Court of Justice at the request of any party to the dispute. The Court's jurisdiction is compulsory, that is, no subsequent specific consent is required for the Court to have jurisdiction over the parties. The Court will hear these disputes under Article 36(1) of its Statute. By Article 94 of the United Nations Charter and Article 59 of the Court's statute, the parties are bound to comply with the Court's decision. In the event of noncompliance, Article 94 provides that recourse to the Security Council may be had.

The disputes to be heard encompass all matters that may arise under the Convention: the meaning of different terms, the construction of various articles and whether a party has performed its obligations under the Convention. The Court is also directed to hear disputes "relating to the responsibility of a State for genocide or for any other acts enumerated in Article III." This is understood in the traditional sense of responsibility to another state for injuries sustained by nationals of the complaining state in violation of principles of international law.

Article IX commits the parties, in advance and with no exceptions or opportunities for withdrawal, to accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in matters involving the Genocide Convention. The Committee has recommended a reservation to this automatic and open-ended submission to the Court's jurisdiction. It is discussed in the section on Committee Action below.

Technical Articles

ARTICLE X

The present Convention, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall bear the date of 9 December 1948.

ARTICLE XI

The present Convention shall be open until 31 December 1949 for signature on behalf of any Member of the United Nations and of any non-member State to which an invitation to sign has been addressed by the General Assembly.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

After 1 January 1950 the present Convention may be acceded to on behalf of any Member of the United Nations and of any non-Member State which has received an invitation as aforesaid.

Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

ARTICLE XII

Any Contracting Party may at any time, by notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, extend the application of the present Convention to all or any of the territories for the conduct of whose foreign relations that Contracting Party is responsible.

PRESS RELEASE OF FOLEY HOAG LLP

Foley Hoag LLP, "Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://foleyhoag.com/news-and-events/news/2019/november/foley-hoag-leads-the-gambiaslegal-team-in-case-to-stop-myanmar-genocide

Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya

November 11, 2019

The Gambia, acting on behalf of the 57 Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, today filed a historic lawsuit in the International Court of Justice, in The Hague, seeking to hold Myanmar accountable under international law for State-sponsored genocide against its minority Muslim population, known as the Rohingya. The suit also asks the Court to order Myanmar to cease and desist from all acts of genocide, to punish those responsible, including senior government officials and military officers, and to make reparations to the victims.

The suit requests, as a matter of extreme urgency, that the Court order "Provisional Measures" to stop Myanmar's genocidal conduct immediately, in order to prevent further harm to the Rohingya people while the case is pending. The Court is expected to hold oral hearings on this request next month.

The suit alleges that Myanmar's actions, "which include killing, causing serious bodily and mental harm, inflicting conditions that are calculated to bring about physical destruction, imposing measures to prevent births, and forcible transfers, are genocidal in character because they are intended to destroy the Rohingya group in whole or in part." These genocidal acts are documented extensively by independent investigative efforts undertaken by United Nations experts and bodies, including the UN Human Rights Council's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, and have been corroborated by international human rights organizations and other credible sources.

The suit was brought under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, in the aftermath of the atrocities committed during World War II. The Gambia and Myanmar are both parties to the Convention.

The Gambia's Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, has been appointed as The Gambia's Agent in the case. He stated that "The Gambia is taking this action to seek justice and accountability for the genocide being committed by Myanmar against the Rohingya, and to uphold and strengthen the global norm against genocide that is binding upon all States." The suit has been fully endorsed by the OIC, an intergovernmental organization composed of States with large or majority Muslim populations. The OIC appointed The Gambia, an OIC member, to bring the case on its behalf.

The Gambia, in turn, chose Foley Hoag LLP to lead its legal team. Foley Hoag specializes in representing States before the International Court of Justice, and other international courts and arbitral tribunals. <u>Paul</u> <u>Reichler</u>, who heads Foley Hoag's International Litigation and Arbitration practice and will serve as the team's lead advocate, praised The Gambia for its "humanitarian concern for the survival of the Rohingya people, who face imminent extinction as a group, and its willingness to stand up and be counted in the struggle of all civilized nations to rid the world of genocide, the most heinous of all crimes against humanity."

Other Foley Hoag attorneys on The Gambia's team include partners <u>Larry Martin</u> and <u>Andrew</u> <u>Loewenstein</u>, counsel <u>Arsalan Suleman</u>, special counsel <u>Pierre d'Argent</u>, and associates <u>Peter Tzeng</u>, Yasmin Al Ameen, and Darío Maestro. Foley Hoag has also invited two prominent international lawyers and human rights experts, with whom it frequently collaborates, to serve as fellow advocates before the Court: Professor Philippe Sands of University College London, and Matrix Chambers; and Professor Payam Akhavan of McGill University in Montreal.

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Business Wire, "Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005244/en/Foley-Hoag-Leads-The-Gambia%E2%80%99s-Legal-Team-in-Historic-Case-to-Stop-Myanmar%E2%80%99s-Genocide-Against-the-Rohingya

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Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya

November 11, 2019 05:34 AM Eastern Standard Time

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--The Gambia, acting on behalf of the 57 Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, today filed a historic lawsuit in the International Court of Justice, in The Hague, seeking to hold Myanmar accountable under international law for State-sponsored genocide against its minority Muslim population, known as the Rohingya. The suit also asks the Court to order Myanmar to cease and desist from all acts of genocide, to punish those responsible, including senior government officials and military officers, and to make reparations to the victims.

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Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stopnnex hsp://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005244/en/Foley... University in Montreal.

About Foley Hoag LLP

Foley Hoag provides innovative, strategic legal services to public, private and government clients across the globe. We have premier capabilities in the life sciences, healthcare, technology, energy, professional services and private funds fields, and in cross-border disputes. The diverse backgrounds, perspectives and experiences of our lawyers and staff contribute to the exceptional senior level service we deliver to clients ranging from startups to multinational companies to sovereign states. For more information, visit <u>www.foleyhoag.com</u> or follow @FoleyHoag on Twitter.

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Business Wire, "Foley Hoag dirige l'équipe juridique de la Gambie dans un procès historique visant à mettre un terme au génocide des Rohingyas en Birmanie", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005660/fr/





Foley Hoag dirige l'équipe juridique de la Gambie dans un procès historique visant à mettre un terme au génocide des Rohingyas en Birmanie

November 11, 2019 05:10 PM Eastern Standard Time

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Mandatée par les 57 États membres de l'Organisation de la coopération islamique, la Gambie a engagé aujourd'hui une action judiciaire historique devant la Cour internationale de Justice, à La Haye, dans le but de tenir la Birmanie responsable, au regard du droit international, d'un génocide soutenu par l'Etat contre la minorité musulmane des Rohingyas. L'action judiciaire demande également à la Cour d'ordonner à la Birmanie de cesser tous les actes de génocide, de punir les responsables, y compris les hauts fonctionnaires gouvernementaux et les officiers militaires, et de dédommager les victimes.

Avec une extrême urgence, l'action judiciaire demande à la Cour d'ordonner des "Mesures provisoires" pour stopper immédiatement les actions génocidaires en Birmanie, afin d'empêcher de nouvelles violences contre la population Rohingya durant l'instruction. La Cour devrait tenir des procédures orales pour cette requête le mois prochain.

L'action judiciaire allègue des actes de la Birmanie "comprenant des tueries, causant de graves atteintes corporelles et mentales, infligeant des conditions planifiées pour garantir la destruction physique, imposant des mesures pour empêcher les naissances et forcer les déplacements, qui sont de nature génocidaire étant donné qu'elles ont pour but de détruire, en partie ou en totalité, la population Rohingya". Ces actions génocidaires sont largement étayées par les travaux d'investigation indépendants réalisés par les experts et les agences des Nations unies, notamment ceux de la Mission internationale indépendante d'établissement des faits en Birmanie du Conseil des droits de l'homme des Nations unies, et ont été corroborés par des organisations internationales des droits de l'homme et d'autres sources d'informations crédibles.

Cette action judiciaire a été engagée en vertu de la Convention pour la prévention et la répression du crime de génocide, adoptée par les Nations unies en 1948, au lendemain des atrocités commises durant la Deuxième guerre mondiale. La Gambie et la Birmanie sont tous deux partis de la Convention.

Le procureur général et ministre de la Juste de la Gambie, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, a été nommé en tant qu'agent de la Gambie dans cette affaire. Il a déclaré: "La Gambie engage cette action pour obtenir justice et désigner les responsables du génocide perpétré par la Birmanie contre les Rohingyas, et pour renforcer la norme mondiale contre le génocide, qui a un caractère contraignant sur tous les États." L'action judiciaire reçoit le soutien total de l'OCI, une organisation intergouvernementale composée d'États ayant une population importante ou une majorité de musulmans. L'OCI a nommé la Gambie pour porter l'affaire en son nom.

À son tour, la Gambie a choisi Foley Hoag LLP pour diriger son équipe juridique. Foley Hoag se spécialise dans la représentation d'États devant la CIJ, et d'autres cours internationales et tribunaux d'arbitrage. Paul Reichler, qui dirige la branche Contentieux internationaux et Arbitrage de Foley Hoag, et qui sera le principal défenseur de l'équipe, a félicité la Gambie pour ses "efforts humanitaires dans la survie du peuple Rohingya, qui est confronté à une purge imminente, et pour sa volonté à s'engager dans la lutte de toutes les nations civilisées pour mettre un terme aux génocides dans le monde, le plus odieux des crimes contre l'humanité." Foley Hoag dirige l'équipe juridique de la Gambie dans un procès histinex 134 https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005660/fr/

Les autres avocats de Foley Hoag de l'équipe de la Gambie sont les partenaires Larry Martin et Andrew Loewenstein, l'avocat Arsalan Suleman, et les associés Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen, et Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag a également invité deux grands avocats internationaux et experts en droits de l'Homme, avec lesquels la Société collabore fréquemment, pour agir en qualité de co-défenseurs devant la CIJ. Il s'agit du professeur Philippe Sands de l'University College London, et membre de Matrix Chambers; et du professeur Payam Akhavan de l'Université McGill, à Montréal.

À propos de Foley Hoag LLP

Foley Hoag fournit des services juridiques innovateurs et stratégiques à des clients publics, privés et gouvernementaux à travers le monde. Nous possédons des compétences de premier plan dans les domaines des sciences de la vie, des soins de santé, de la technologie, de l'énergie, des services professionnels, de la gestion des investissements et des différends transfrontaliers. Nos équipes possèdent les compétences et l'expérience nécessaires pour fournir un service d'un niveau exceptionnel à des clients allant de startups à des multinationales, en passant par des États souverains. Pour plus d'informations, visitez <u>www.foleyhoag.com</u> ou suivez @FoleyHoag sur Twitter.

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Business Wire, "Foley Hoag lidera el equipo legal de Gambia en el caso histórico para detener el genocidio de Birmania contra los rohinyás", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005331/es/





Foley Hoag lidera el equipo legal de Gambia en el caso histórico para detener el genocidio de Birmania contra los rohinyás

November 11, 2019 08:20 AM Eastern Standard Time

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Gambia, en nombre de los 57 estados miembros de la Organización de Cooperación Islámica, ha presentado hoy una demanda histórica en la Tribunal Internacional de Justicia, en La Haya, para que Birmania rinda cuentas en virtud del derecho internacional por el genocidio contra su población musulmana minoritaria, conocida como los rohinyás. La demanda también solicita al tribunal que ordene a Birmania cesar y detener todos los actos de genocidio, que castigue a los responsables, incluidos altos funcionarios del gobierno y oficiales militares y que indemnice a las víctimas.

La demanda solicita, con extrema urgencia, que el tribunal ordene "Medidas provisionales" para detener inmediatamente la conducta genocida de Birmania, a fin de evitar más daños al pueblo rohinyá mientras el caso está pendiente. Se espera que el tribunal celebre vistas orales sobre este asunto el próximo mes.

La demanda alega que las acciones de Birmania, "que incluyen el asesinato, causar daños corporales y mentales graves, infligir condiciones calculadas para provocar la destrucción física, imponer medidas para prevenir los nacimientos y transferencias forzosas, son genocidas en carácter porque están destinados a destruir al grupo rohinyá en su totalidad o en parte." Estos actos genocidas están documentados ampliamente por las iniciativas de investigación independientes emprendidas por expertos y órganos de las Naciones Unidas, incluida la Misión Internacional Independiente de Búsqueda de Hechos sobre Birmania del Consejo de Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas y han sido corroborados por organizaciones internacionales de derechos humanos y otras fuentes fiables.

La demanda ha sido presentada en virtud de la Convención sobre la Prevención y la Sanción del Delito de Genocidio, adoptada por las Naciones Unidas en 1948, tras las atrocidades cometidas durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial. Gambia y Birmania son partes en la Convención.

El Fiscal General de Gambia y Ministro de Justicia, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, ha sido nombrado agente de Gambia en el caso. Afirmó que "Gambia está tomando esta medida para buscar justicia y rendición de cuentas por el genocidio que está cometiendo Birmania contra los rohinyás y para defender y fortalecer la norma mundial contra el genocidio que es vinculante para todos los Estados". La demanda ha sido plenamente respaldada por la OCI, una organización intergubernamental compuesta por estados con poblaciones musulmanas grandes o mayoritarias. La OCI nombró a Gambia, miembro de la OCI, para que presentara el caso en su nombre.

Gambia, a su vez, ha elegido a Foley Hoag LLP para dirigir su equipo legal. Foley Hoag está especializado en la representación de los estados ante el Tribunal Internacional de Justicia, y otros tribunales internacionales y tribunales arbitrales. Paul Reichler, que dirige la práctica de Litigios y Arbitraje Internacional de Foley Hoag y que será principal abogado del equipo, elogió a Gambia por su "preocupación humanitaria por la supervivencia del pueblo rohinyá, que se enfrenta a la extinción inminente como grupo y su voluntad de levantarse y participar en la lucha de todas las naciones civilizadas para librar al mundo del genocidio, el más atroz de todos los crímenes contra la humanidad".

Otros abogados de Foley Hoag en el equipo de Gambia incluyen a sus socios Larry Martin y Andrew Loewenstein, el abogado Arsalan Suleman, y los asociados Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen y Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag también ha invitado a dos Foley Hoag lidera el equipo legal de Gambia en el caso histórico parannex 135 https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005331/es/ destacados abogados internacionales y expertos en derechos humanos, con los que colabora con frecuencia, a actuar como otros defensores ante el tribunal: el profesor Philippe Sands de University College London y Matrix Chambers; y el profesor Payam Akhavan de la Universidad McGill en Montreal.

Acerca de Foley Hoag LLP

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Business Wire, "Foley Hoag leitet das Rechtsteam Gambias in einer historischen Klage, um Myanmars Völkermord an den Rohingya zu stoppen", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005575/de/





Foley Hoag leitet das Rechtsteam Gambias in einer historischen Klage, um Myanmars Völkermord an den Rohingya zu stoppen

November 11, 2019 01:55 PM Eastern Standard Time

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Gambia, das im Namen der 57 Mitgliedstaaten der Organisation für Islamische Zusammenarbeit handelt, hat heute beim Internationalen Gerichtshof in Den Haag eine historische Klage eingereicht, mit der es Myanmar völkerrechtlich für den staatlich unterstützten Völkermord an seiner muslimischen Minderheitsbevölkerung, den Rohingya, verantwortlich machen will. Die Klage fordert den Gerichtshof auch auf, Myanmar anzuweisen, sämtliche genozidalen Handlungen einzustellen und zu unterlassen, die Verantwortlichen, einschließlich hoher Regierungsbeamter und Militärs, zu bestrafen und den Opfern Reparationen zu zahlen.

In der Klageschrift wird beantragt, dass der Gerichtshof dringend "vorläufige Maßnahmen" anordnen möge, um das genozidale Verhalten Myanmars unverzüglich zu stoppen und weiteren Schaden für das Volk der Rohingya zu verhindern, solange der Fall anhängig ist. Es wird erwartet, dass das Gericht im nächsten Monat mündliche Anhörungen zu diesem Antrag durchführt.

In der Klageschrift heißt es, dass Myanmars Handlungen, "die das Töten, das Verursachen schwerer körperlicher und geistiger Schäden, die Herstellung von Bedingungen, die darauf ausgelegt sind, zu einer physischen Vernichtung zu führen, die Durchführung von Maßnahmen zur Verhinderung von Geburten und Zwangsumsiedlungen umfassen, einen genozidalen Charakter besitzen, weil sie dazu bestimmt sind, die Bevölkerungsgruppe der Rohingya ganz oder teilweise zu vernichten". Diese völkermörderischen Handlungen werden durch unabhängige Ermittlungen von Experten und Gremien der Vereinten Nationen, einschließlich der unabhängigen internationalen Untersuchungsmission des UN-Menschenrechtsrates zu Myanmar, ausführlich dokumentiert und wurden von internationalen Menschenrechtsorganisationen und anderen glaubwürdigen Quellen bestätigt.

Die Klage wurde im Rahmen des Übereinkommens über die Verhütung und Bestrafung des Völkermordes erhoben, das von den Vereinten Nationen 1948 nach den Gräueltaten des Zweiten Weltkriegs verabschiedet wurde. Gambia und Myanmar sind beide Vertragsparteien des Übereinkommens.

Der Generalstaatsanwalt und Justizminister Gambias, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, wurde in diesem Fall zum Bevollmächtigten Gambias ernannt. Er erklärte, dass "Gambia diese Maßnahmen ergreift, um für den Völkermord, den Myanmar an den Rohingya begeht, erreichen will, dass die Verantwortlichen zur Rechenschaft gezogen werden und die globale Norm gegen Völkermord, die für alle Staaten verbindlich ist, aufrechtzuerhalten und zu stärken". Die Klage wird von der Organisation für Islamische Zusammenarbeit (OIC), einer zwischenstaatlichen Organisation, die sich aus Staaten mit großer oder mehrheitlich muslimischer Bevölkerung zusammensetzt, uneingeschränkt unterstützt. Die OIC beauftragte Gambia als OIC-Mitglied, den Fall in ihrem Namen vorzubringen.

Gambia wiederum wählte Foley Hoag LLP aus, um die Federführung des Rechtsteams zu übernehmen. Foley Hoag ist spezialisiert auf die Vertretung von Staaten vor dem Internationalen Gerichtshof und anderen internationalen Gerichten und Schiedsgerichten. Paul Reichler, der die internationale Prozess- und Schiedsgerichtspraxis von Foley Hoag leitet und als Hauptanwalt des Teams fungieren wird, lobte Gambia für seine "humanitäre Sorge um das Überleben des Volks der Rohingya, das als Gruppe vor der drohenden Auslöschung steht, und seine Bereitschaft, aufzustehen und den Kampf aller zivilisierten Nationen zur Befreiung der Welt von Völkermord, dem abscheulichsten aller Verbrechen gegen die Menschlichkeit, zu unterstützen". Foley Hoag leitet das Rechtsteam Gambias in einer historischen Kla**gennex 136** https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005575/de/ Weitere Anwälte von Foley Hoag im Team von Gambia sind die Partner Larry Martin und Andrew Loewenstein, Counsel Arsalan Suleman und die Associates Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen und Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag hat außerdem zwei führende internationale Anwälte und Menschenrechtsexperten, mit denen die Kanzlei regelmäßig zusammenarbeitet, eingeladen, um als Fellow Advocates vor dem Gerichtshof zu fungieren: Professor Philippe Sands vom University College London und Mitglied der Matrix Chambers sowie Professor Payam Akhavan von der McGill University in Montreal.

Über Foley Hoag LLP

Foley Hoag bietet innovative, strategische Rechtsdienstleistungen für öffentliche, private und staatliche Mandanten weltweit. Wir verfügen über erstklassige Kompetenzen in den Bereichen Biowissenschaften, Gesundheitswesen, Technologie, Energie, professionelle Dienstleistungen und private Fonds sowie in grenzüberschreitenden Streitigkeiten. Die unterschiedlichen Hintergründe, Perspektiven und Erfahrungen unserer Anwälte und Mitarbeiter tragen zu dem herausragenden Service, den wir unseren Mandanten bieten, die von Startups über multinationale Unternehmen bis hin zu souveränen Staaten reichen. Weitere Informationen finden Sie unter <u>www.foleyhoag.com</u> oder folgen Sie uns unter @FoleyHoag auf Twitter.

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Business Wire, "Foley Hoag leidt het juridisch team van Gambia in historische zaak om de genocide van Myanmar tegen de Rohingya te stoppen", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005610/nl/





Foley Hoag leidt het juridisch team van Gambia in historische zaak om de genocide van Myanmar tegen de Rohingya te stoppen

November 11, 2019 03:03 PM Eastern Standard Time

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Gambia heeft namens de 57 lidstaten van de Organisatie voor Islamitische Samenwerking vandaag een historische rechtszaak aangespannen bij het Internationaal Gerechtshof in Den Haag, om Myanmar op grond van het internationale recht aansprakelijk te stellen voor door de staat gesponsorde genocide tegen zijn minderheid moslim bevolking, bekend als de Rohingya. De rechtszaak vraagt het Hof tevens om Myanmar te gelasten van alle genocidehandelingen af te zien en deze te staken, om de verantwoordelijken te bestraffen, inclusief hoge regeringsfunctionarissen en militaire officieren, en om de slachtoffers schadeloos te stellen.

In de zaak wordt met uiterste urgentie gevraagd dat het Hof 'voorlopige maatregelen' gelast om het genocidale gedrag van Myanmar onmiddellijk te stoppen, teneinde verder kwaad voor de Rohingya-bevolking te voorkomen terwijl de zaak aanhangig is. Naar verwachting zal het Hof volgende maand mondelinge hoorzittingen over dit verzoek houden.

In de rechtszaak wordt beweerd dat de acties van Myanmar, 'waaronder doden, veroorzaken van ernstig lichamelijk en geestelijk letsel, zorgen voor omstandigheden die erop berekend zijn dat ze fysieke vernietiging teweegbrengen, maatregelen opleggen om geboorten te voorkomen en gedwongen overdrachten, genocidaal van aard zijn omdat ze bedoeld zijn om de Rohingya-groep geheel of gedeeltelijk te vernietigen.' Deze genocidale handelingen worden uitgebreid gedocumenteerd door onafhankelijke onderzoeksinspanningen door deskundigen en organen van de Verenigde Naties, waaronder de onafhankelijke internationale onderzoeksmissie in Myanmar van de VN-Mensenrechtenraad, en zijn bevestigd door internationale menselijke rechtenorganisaties en andere geloofwaardige bronnen.

De zaak werd ingesteld onder het Verdrag inzake de voorkoming en de bestraffing van genocide, aangenomen door de Verenigde Naties in 1948, in de nasleep van de wreedheden begaan tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog. Gambia en Myanmar zijn beide partij bij het verdrag.

De procureur-generaal en minister van Justitie van Gambia, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, is aangesteld als bemiddelaar van Gambia in de zaak. Hij verklaarde: "Gambia onderneemt deze actie om gerechtigheid en verantwoording te zoeken voor de genocide die door Myanmar tegen de Rohingya wordt gepleegd, en om de wereldwijde norm tegen genocide die bindend is voor alle staten hoog te houden en te versterken." Het proces is volledig goedgekeurd door de OIC, een intergouvernementele organisatie die bestaat uit staten met een grote of meerderheid moslim bevolking. De OIC heeft Gambia, een OIC-lid, aangesteld om de zaak namens hen aan te spannen.

Gambia koos op zijn beurt voor Foley Hoag LLP om het juridisch team te leiden. Foley Hoag is gespecialiseerd in het vertegenwoordigen van staten voor het Internationaal Gerechtshof en andere internationale rechtbanken en arbitragetribunalen. Paul Reichler, die aan het hoofd staat van de internationale proces- en arbitragepraktijk van Foley Hoag en die zal dienen als de belangrijkste pleitbezorger van het team, roemde Gambia om zijn 'humanitaire zorg voor het voortbestaan van de Rohingyabevolking die dreigt uit te sterven als groep, en zijn bereidheid om op te staan en geteld te worden in de strijd van alle beschaafde landen om de wereld te bevrijden van genocide, de meest gruwelijke misdaad tegen de mensheid.'

Andere Foley Hoag-advocaten in het team van Gambia zijn onder andere partners Larry Martin en Andrew Loewenstein,

Foley Hoag leidt het juridisch team van Gambia in historische zaak Amnex 137 https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005610/nl/ raadsman Arsalan Suleman en medewerkers Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen en Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag heeft ook twee prominente internationale advocaten en mensenrechtendeskundigen, met wie het regelmatig samenwerkt, uitgenodigd om als collega-advocaten voor het Hof te fungeren: professor Philippe Sands van University College London en Matrix Chambers; en professor Payam Akhavan van McGill University in Montreal.

Over Foley Hoag LLP

Foley Hoag biedt innovatieve, strategische juridische diensten aan publieke, private en overheidsklanten over de hele wereld. We hebben vooraanstaande capaciteiten op het gebied van life sciences, gezondheidszorg, technologie, energie, professionele dienstverlening en particuliere fondsen, en in grensoverschrijdende geschillen. De uiteenlopende achtergronden, perspectieven en ervaringen van onze advocaten en medewerkers dragen bij aan de uitzonderlijke service op hoog niveau die we leveren aan klanten, variërend van startups tot multinationale ondernemingen tot soevereine staten. Ga voor meer informatie naar www.foleyhoag.com of volg @FoleyHoag op Twitter.

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Business Wire, "Foley Hoag alla guida del team legale del Gambia nella causa storica per porre fine al genocidio dei Rohingya in Myanmar", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005616/it/





Foley Hoag alla guida del team legale del Gambia nella causa storica per porre fine al genocidio dei Rohingya in Myanmar

November 11, 2019 03:15 PM Eastern Standard Time

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--Il Gambia, agendo per conto dei 57 Stati membri dell'Organizzazione per la Cooperazione Islamica, oggi ha intentato una causa storica presso la Corte internazionale di giustizia dell'Aia, nel tentativo di attribuire a Myanmar la responsabilità ai sensi della legge internazionale per il genocidio finanziato dal governo contro la minoranza islamica della propria popolazione, la comunità Rohingya. La causa chiede inoltre alla Corte di ordinare a Myanmar la cessazione e il divieto di qualsiasi atto di genocidio, punire i responsabili, compresi ufficiali di stato e militari, e di risarcire le vittime.

La causa richiede, in estrema urgenza, che la Corte ordini "Misure provvisorie" per porre fine immediatamente al comportamento genocida di Myanmar, per impedire ulteriori danni alla popolazione Rohingya durante il processo giudiziario. Le udienze del caso sono previste alla Corte il mese prossimo.

La causa sostiene che le azioni di Myanmar, "che comprendono uccisioni, danni fisici e mentali, l'imposizione di condizioni mirate a causare distruzione fisica, l'imposizione di misure per prevenire le nascite e i trasferimenti forzati, sono di natura genocida perché intese a distruggere parzialmente o totalmente la comunità Rohingya". Queste azioni genocide sono ampiamente documentate da ricerche investigative indipendenti svolte da esperti e organizzazioni delle Nazioni Unite, compresa la Missione d'inchiesta internazionale indipendente su Myanmar, parte della Commissione per i diritti umani dell'ONU, e sono stati corroborati da organizzazioni internazionali per i diritti umani e altre fonti credibili.

La causa è stata intentata ai sensi della Convenzione per la prevenzione e la repressione del delitto di genocidio, adottata dalle Nazioni Unite nel 1948, a seguito delle atrocità commesse durante la Seconda Guerra Mondiale. Il Gambia e Myanmar aderiscono entrambi alla Convenzione.

Il Procuratore generale e Ministro della giustizia del Gambia, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, è stato nominato rappresentante del Gambia nel procedimento giudiziario. Tambadou ha dichiarato che "Lo scopo della causa intentata dal Gambia è ottenere giustizia e individuare i responsabili del genocidio del popolo Rohingya portato avanti da Myanmar, e per sostenere e rafforzare la norma globale contro il genocidio, vincolante per tutti gli Stati membri". La causa è stata pienamente appoggiata dell'OIC, un'organizzazione intergovernativa composta di Stati con ampie popolazioni o a maggioranza islamica. L'OIC ha nominato il Gambia, un Paese membro dell'OIC, quale rappresentante dell'OIC nella portare avanti la causa per conto dell'organizzazione.

Il Gambia, a sua volta, ha scelto Foley Hoag LLP per guidare il suo team legale. Foley Hoag è specializzata nel rappresentare Stati davanti alla Corte internazionale di giustizia e altre corti internazionali e tribunali arbitrali. Paul Reichler, alla guida della divisione International Litigation and Arbitration di Foley Hoag e che ricoprirà il ruolo di avvocato principale del team, ha elogiato il Gambia per il suo "interessamento umanitario nei confronti della sopravvivenza della popolazione Rohingya, che sta affrontando l'imminente estinzione di massa, e la sua volontà di farsi portavoce nella lotta di tutte le nazioni civili per liberare il mondo dal genocidio, il crimine più orribile contro l'umanità".

Altri avvocati di Foley Hoag nel team del Gambia comprendono i partner Larry Martin e Andrew Loewenstein, il consulente Arsalan Suleman, e gli associati Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen e Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag ha inoltre invitato due prominenti avvocati internazionali ed esperti di diritti umani con i quali collabora spesso, per ricoprire il ruolo di colleghi avvocati davanti Foley Hoag alla guida del team legale del Gambia nella causa storicAnnex 138 https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191111005616/it/

alla Corte: il Prof. Philippe Sands di University College London e Matrix Chambers; e il Prof. Payam Akhavan di McGill University, Montreal.

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Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya

November 11, 2019

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov 11, 2019--

The Gambia, acting on behalf of the 57 Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, today filed a historic lawsuit in the International Court of Justice, in The Hague, seeking to hold Myanmar accountable under international law for State-sponsored genocide against its minority Muslim population, known as the Rohingya. The suit also asks the Court to order Myanmar to cease and desist from all acts of genocide, to punish those responsible, including senior government officials and military officers, and to make reparations to the victims.

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The suit requests, as a matter of extreme urgency, that the Court order "Provisional Measures" to stop Myanmar's genocidal conduct immediately, in order to prevent further harm to the Rohingya people while the case is pending. The Court is expected to hold oral hearings on this request next month.

The suit alleges that Myanmar's actions, "which include killing, causing serious bodily and mental harm, inflicting conditions that are calculated to bring about physical destruction, imposing measures to prevent births, and forcible transfers, are genocidal in character because they are intended to destroy the Rohingya group in whole or in part." These genocidal acts are documented extensively by independent investigative efforts undertaken by United Nations experts and bodies, including the UN Human Rights Council's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, and have been corroborated by international human rights organizations and other credible sources.

The suit was brought under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, in the aftermath of the atrocities committed during World War II. The Gambia and Myanmar are both parties to the Convention.

The Gambia's Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, has been appointed as The Gambia's Agent in the case. He stated that "The Gambia is taking this action to seek justice and accountability for the genocide being committed by Myanmar against the Rohingya, and to uphold and strengthen the global norm against genocide that is binding upon all States." The suit has been fully endorsed by the OIC, an Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop MyAmaex (139)cide Against the Rohingya

intergovernmental organization composed of States with large or majority Muslim populations. The OIC appointed The Gambia, an OIC member, to bring the case on its behalf.

The Gambia, in turn, chose Foley Hoag LLP to lead its legal team. Foley Hoag specializes in representing States before the International Court of Justice, and other international courts and arbitral tribunals. Paul Reichler, who heads Foley Hoag's International Litigation and Arbitration practice and will serve as the team's lead advocate, praised The Gambia for its "humanitarian concern for the survival of the Rohingya people, who face imminent extinction as a group, and its willingness to stand up and be counted in the struggle of all civilized nations to rid the world of genocide, the most heinous of all crimes against humanity."

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Other Foley Hoag attorneys on The Gambia's team include partners Larry Martin and Andrew Loewenstein, counsel Arsalan Suleman, and associates Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen, and Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag has also invited two prominent international lawyers and human rights experts, with whom it frequently collaborates, to serve as fellow advocates before the Court: Professor Philippe Sands of University College London, and Matrix Chambers; and Professor Payam Akhavan of McGill University in Montreal.

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Business

Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya

11 November 2019, 17:04 GMT+6:30

Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stop Myanmar's Genocide Against the Rohingya

Business Wire

BOSTON -- November 11, 2019

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The suit alleges that Myanmar's actions, "which include killing, causing serious bodily and mental harm, inflicting conditions that are calculated to bring about physical destruction, imposing measures to prevent births, and forcible transfers, are genocidal in character because they are intended to destroy the Rohingya group in whole or in part." These genocidal acts are documented extensively by independent investigative efforts undertaken by United Nations experts and bodies, including the UN Human Rights Council's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, and have been corroborated by international human rights organizations and other credible sources.

The suit was brought under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, in the aftermath of the atrocities committed during World War II. The Gambia and Myanmar are both parties to the Convention.

The Gambia's Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, has been appointed as The Gambia's Agent in the case. He stated that "The Gambia is taking this action to seek justice and accountability for the genocide being committed by Myanmar against the Rohingya, and to uphold and strengthen the global norm against genocide that is binding upon all States." The suit has been fully endorsed by the OIC, an intergovernmental organization composed of States with large or majority Muslim populations. The OIC appointed The Gambia, an OIC member, to bring the case on its behalf.

The Gambia, in turn, chose Foley Hoag LLP to lead its legal team. Foley Hoag specializes in representing States before the International Court of Justice, and other international courts and arbitral tribunals. Paul Reichler, who heads Foley Hoag's International Litigation and Arbitration practice and will serve as the team's lead advocate, praised The Gambia for its "humanitarian concern for the survival of the Rohingya people, who face imminent extinction as a group, and its willingness to stand up and be counted in the struggle of all civilized nations to rid the world of genocide, the most heinous of all crimes against humanity."

Foley Hoag Leads The Gambia's Legal Team in Historic Case to Stopnnexhtpp://www.bloomberg.com/press-releases/2019-11-11/foley-hoag-lead...

Other Foley Hoag attorneys on The Gambia's team include partners Larry Martin and Andrew Loewenstein, counsel Arsalan Suleman, and associates Peter Tzeng, Yasmin Al Ameen, and Dario Maestro. Foley Hoag has also invited two prominent international lawyers and human rights experts, with whom it frequently collaborates, to serve as fellow advocates before the Court: Professor Philippe Sands of University College London, and Matrix Chambers; and Professor Payam Akhavan of McGill University in Montreal.

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PM to open OIC-CFM Saturday; Rohingya issue on focus

Visit to Rohingya camp Friday

UNB NEWS (http://old.unb.com.bd/english/writer) Wednesday 02 May, 2018 04:59:46 pm



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. File Photo

Dhaka, May 2 (UNB) - The 45th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (OIC-CFM) begins here on Saturday with a special focus on Rohingya issue and other challenges facing by the Muslim Ummah.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to open the two-day event at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) in the city on Saturday morning.

The theme of this year's council is "Islamic Values for Sustainable Peace, Solidarity and Development."

This is for the second time Bangladesh is hosting a CFM after holding the first one in 1983, an official told UNB.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali will brief the media about the CFM on Thursday morning.

With the 45th CFM in Dhaka, chairmanship of the CFM will pass from incumbent Cote d'Ivoire to Bangladesh for the next one year until the holding of the next CFM.

The 45th session of the CFM will end with a closing session preceded by a sideline event/brainstorming session under the title "The Humanitarian Challenges in the OIC Member States with a Special Focus on the Humanitarian Situation on the Rohingyas" on Sunday.

During the session, the meetings of the Special Committee, various OIC Ministerial Contact Groups, and elections, including those of the Assistant Secretaries General (ASG) of OIC, will be held in parallel at the same venue of the conference – Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC).

Foreign Ministry officials said the current Rohingya crisis and the challenges facing the Muslim Ummah — the conflicts, division, tension and instability of the Muslim world — will get focus in the 45th Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of the OIC.

"Protection of their (Rohingyas) rights and fundamental freedoms will, therefore, remain a major preoccupation of this CFM," State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam said recently.

The problems of terrorism and violent extremism, sectarian tendencies, hatred, prejudice and Islamophobia, massive humanitarian crises with forced displacements seriously — affecting the rights and dignity of Muslim minorities like the Rakhine Muslims of Myanmar, persistent poverty and socio-economic backwardness of Muslim societies are OIC priorities.

The way the CFM is addressing these issues are through resolutions and proposals regarding political, economic, social, cultural and family affairs issues that are now under finalisation, he said.

The meetings of the Permanent Finance Committee, Economic, social, cultural and Family Affairs Commission (ICECS), and the Senior Officials in Jeddah this month have largely discussed these resolutions seeking to find solutions and approaches to the ongoing problems of the Muslim Ummah.

Dhaka sees these issues being approached under four broad ranges of draft resolutions: those relating to peace, conflict resolution, mediation and security; those relating to OIC economic and development agenda; those relating to minorities and humanitarian questions and those relating to OIC reforms.

Though there will be a separate sideline session on the humanitarian challenges of the Muslim world with special focus on the Rohingyas on Sunday, prior to that a visit to the Rohingya makeshift camps in Cox's Bazar will take place on Friday.

Meanwhile, Canada's Special Envoy to Myanmar Bob Rae, who is considered as an international expert on Rohingya refugee crisis, will deliver a public lecture on 'Rohingya Refugee Crisis' at the Brac Centre Inn

auditorium on Thursday morning.

He is likely to visit Rohingya camp in Cox's Bazar on Friday.

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OIC Pushes For Increased Pressure On Myanmar

February 10, 2019



The Organisation for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya ended Sunday its meeting in The Gambia with a renewed commitment to apply more pressure on Myanmar as the Muslim minority continues to face persecution.

"The OIC must not leave it to others alone to demand accountability for crimes committed against fellow Muslims, especially when the affected Muslim community constitutes a minority in a State as the Rohingyas are in Myanmar," said Gambia Justice Minister Aboubacarr Tambadou in a statement delivered during the inaugural meeting of the OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee held at Labranda Coral Beach Resort & Spa in Brufut, Gambia.

Last year, the forty six session of the Council of Foreign Ministers adopted in Abu Dhabi (U.A.E) a resolution establishing the Ad Hoc Committee with a mandate to hold accountable the perpetrators of gross human violations mounted against the Rohingya and put an end to the cycles of violence in Rakhine State of Myanmar.

Tambadou further stated that the Rohingya crisis provides the OIC with an unique opportunity to assert its leadership role in matters affecting Muslim minority communities across the globe.

These minority groups, he argued, deserve the collective voice, support and solidarity of the OIC. He then added: "The OIC must therefore speak for them. When international crimes are committed against them, it must be the responsibility of the OIC to lead international calls for accountability."

Since 2015, hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees have flooded into neighbouring Bangladesh. A situation that has created a deepening humanitarian crisis.

The Bangladesh Minister for Foreign Affairs, Md. Shahriar Alam, seized the opportunity to call for a sustainable solution to prevent a recurrence of a crisis that has been going in Myanmar for over decades. He made it clear that Myanmar authorities have to deliver on their international obligations.

The meeting, which was attended by a panel of experts, adopted series of measures that would be tabled before the Council of Foreign Ministers to be held in March this year in Abu Dhabi, United Arab

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Written by Abdoulie JOHN

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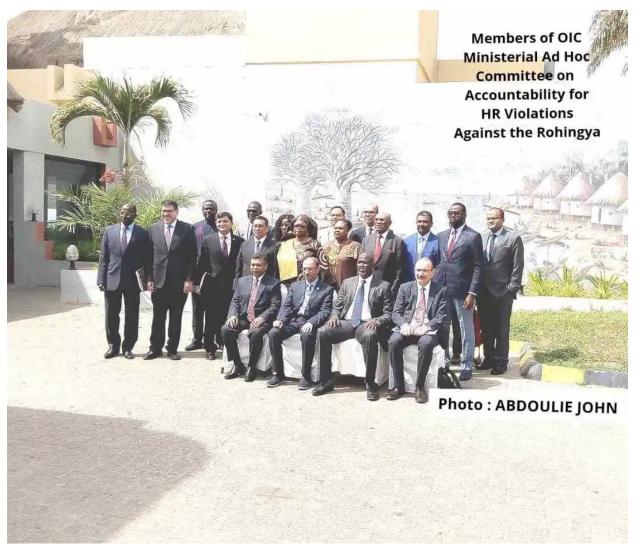


By Abdoulie John

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The meeting, which was attended by a panel of experts, adopted series of measures that would be tabled before the Council of Foreign Ministers in March this year in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

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Panafrican News Agency

Gambian gov't approves OIC proposal to lead legal action against Myanmar at ICJ

Banjul, Gambia (PANA) - The Gambian cabinet has approved a proposal of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for the country to lead international legal action at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Myanmar for crimes against the Rohingyas.

Cabinet also approved the appointment of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice Aboubacar Tambadou to represent The Gambia throughout the proceedings at the ICJ, a statement received by PANA on Saturday said.

The OIC setup an ad hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations against the Rohingyas at the 45th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Bangladesh. The Gambia was unanimously selected to chair the committee.

The responsibilities of the ad hoc Ministerial Committee include to ensure accountability and justice for gross violations of international human rights and humanitarian law against the Rohingyas.

The committee is also to assist in information gathering and evidence collection as well as mobilise and coordinate international political support for accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingya Muslims.

At the 2019 Mecca Summit the government of The Gambia was tasked by the OIC to use all international legal instruments to hold accountable the perpetrators of crimes against the Rohingyas in Myanmar.

In a communique issued by the Muslim leaders after the Mecca Summit, the OIC insisted on the need for thorough "international, independent and transparent investigations into the human rights violations in Myanmar, including sexual violence and aggression against children, and to hold to account all those responsible for these brutal acts in order to bring justice to the victims".

The summit also called for all stakeholders to ensure free and unrestricted access to humanitarian

assistance for affected persons and communities.

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Dr M slams UN, Myanmar govt over Rohingya crisis

Dr M slams UN, Myanmar govt over Rohingya crisis







The UN's silence on the Rohingya crisis is deafening, Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said, adding that the 75-year-old organisation has not fulfilled its purpose of preventing such man-made atrocities. -- Screen capture photo from RTM's video

NEW YORK: The United Nations and Myanmar government came under fire on Tuesday for their inaction in resolving the Rohingya crisis which has displaced more than a million people in the country.

The UN's silence on the crisis is deafening, Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said,

Dr M slams UN, Myanmar govt over Rohingya crisis

adding that the 75-year-old organisation has not fulfilled its purpose of preventing such manmade atrocities.

"Without Security Council's action, others must do their part to resolve the crisis and bring the perpetrators to justice," he said at a high-level side event "Rohingya Crisis - A Way Forward" at the United Nations headquarters on Tuesday. Also present was Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed.

Myanmar's military has been accused of murdering thousands of Rohingya in western Rakhine state since 2017, which has resulted in the mass exodus of these Muslim minorities to neighbouring countries, and led to the world's largest refugee camp at Cox Bazar in Bangladesh.

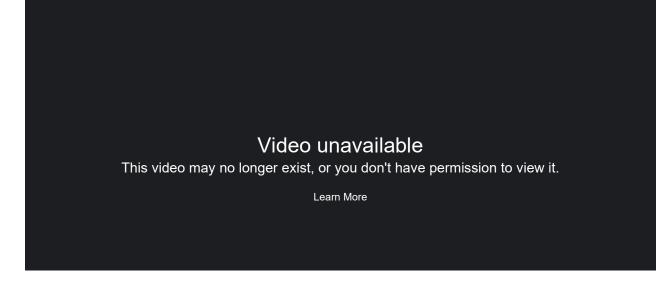
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Dr Mahathir said what happened in the Rakhine State is genocide.

"What took place were mass killings, systematic rape and other gross violations of human rights," he said.

He commended the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) effort to bring the matter to the International Court of Justice, and hopes that other countries would support OIC to ensure the perpetrators do not get away with the heinous crimes they have committed.



Dr M slams UN, Myanmar govt over Rohingya crisis

"Malaysia, on our part, has also tried to do all it can. Apart from rendering humanitarian assistance, Malaysia is operating a field hospital in Cox's Bazar. We are also hosting close to 100,000 registered Rohingya refugees," he added.

Dr Mahathir said the longer the Rohingyas stay in the camps, the more desperate their situation becomes. Some become vulnerable to other forms of exploitation, including human trafficking and sex slavery.

He said the Myanmar authorities have also denied access to some UN officials and humanitarian aid workers.

"If Myanmar has nothing to hide, why bar others from seeing the situation in Rakhine? Let these officials and aid workers visit, inspect and assist those living in the camps."

Dr Mahathir said if Myanmar is serious in alleviating the crisis, repatriation should be the main priority. Two attempts have been made to repatriate some of the refugees. Both have failed.

"Reasons for this are obvious. No one would return if they do not feel that their safety is guaranteed. On this, Malaysia will continue to insist that repatriation be done in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner.

"This can only be done by granting full citizenship to the Rohingyas. However, the Myanmar authorities have manipulated the Rohingya issue to incite fear, hatred and violence. Thus, merely considering the idea of granting citizenship is unacceptable," he said.

Dr Mahathir said none of the atrocities committed in 2017 have been accounted for. Even those convicted for the Inn Dinn mass killings, for example, were released after serving barely one year of their 10-year sentence.

"The conviction was an attempt to deceive us into thinking that they are holding perpetrators accountable," he added.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia will continue to help the Rohingyas within its means and capacity.

"We hope others would also join us and Bangladesh in our resolve to end the miseries that have befallen the Rohingyas. We need to put an end to the crisis and we need to do it now." he said.

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Mahathir blasts Myanmar and United Nations over Rohingya 'genocide'

Tashny Sukumaran 803 words 25 September 2019 scmp.com SCMCOM English (c) 2019 scmp.com. All rights reserved.

* The Malaysian leader says attacks on the community in Rakhine state were 'institutionalised terrorism', criticising Suu Kyi's government for a lack of action and the UN for a 'deafening' silence

* Rights activists welcome his remarks, but call on his government to reassess its own treatment of refugees

Rights activists have welcomed remarks by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad in which he refers to the targeting of Myanmar's Rohingya as "genocide" and "institutionalised terrorism", but have called on his government to reassess its own treatment of refugees.

"What took place were mass killings, systematic rape and other gross violations of human rights [that] resulted in Rohingya fleeing the country on masse," Mahathir told a high-profile event on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, as he described violence against the community in Rakhine state by military forces and Buddhist extremists.

He slammed the Myanmar government, led by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, for being unwilling to take any action to "resolve the crisis" - and the United Nations for its "deafening" silence.

He also praised the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) for attempting to seek legal redress for the stateless Rohingya through the International Court of Justice, saying that other countries should support the OIC "to ensure that the perpetrators do not get away with the heinous crimes they have committed".

"It is left up to us - the international community, to do something about the situation. For a start,

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the UN should play its role, taking into account that it was established in the hope of preventing future human-made miseries ... Without Security Council action, others must do their part to resolve the crisis and bring perpetrators to justice," Mahathir said.

He commended Bangladesh for hosting 1.2 million refugees and said Malaysia was committed to helping its own Rohingya community.

Among those present at the meeting organised by the OIC secretariat was Sheikh Hasina Wazed, the prime minister of Bangladesh.

Malaysia is home to 177,690 refugees and asylum seekers officially registered with the UN's refugee agency, although the true figure including unregistered people is much higher. Of those officially registered, 97,750 are Rohingya. Several years ago, the government agreed to allow 3,000 Syrian refugees to enter and work in Malaysia to alleviate the global migration crisis.

In Malaysia, which is yet to ratify the UN Refugee Convention, refugees are unable to work, attend school, or access public health care. Complaints of police harassment are common, particularly from those waiting for official UNHCR cards legally confirming their status.

Many refugees turn to informal, low-skilled labour where they are vulnerable to physical and economic exploitation. Recently, a pilot project offered a few hundred Rohingya the opportunity to work on palm oil plantations, although few took up the offer as they were not allowed to bring their families with them.

Critics have rounded on such problems, with activists insisting Malaysia has a humanitarian obligation to "provide basic necessities and protection".

"As we call on international communities to support refugee communities in Malaysia, let's also look at our own resources to support them. We can make a difference in providing a safe space, the right to work, and formal education - an inalienable right," said Glorene Das, director at local NGO Tenaganita, which protects the rights of women, migrants and refugees.

Glorene said the non-interference policy of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations had only made matters worse.

"While we speak at the UN and among international communities, we also have an obligation to do so on the Asean platform. As a member of Asean we must continue to question Myanmar, and if they do not prioritise seeking solutions we must demand they leave the bloc. Trade agreements cannot be the only motivator for Asean - we must put people before profits."

Mahathir's remarks come amid an impasse in the crisis, said Lilianne Fan, chairwoman of the Asia

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Pacific Refugee Rights Network's Rohingya working group. She said Bangladesh, which hosts the majority of Rohingya refugees, was "increasingly frustrated with the lack of tangible action on the Myanmar side".

"It is also excellent that Mahathir mentioned Malaysia's commitment to assist Rohingya refugees in our territory. The national framework for refugees is, indeed, being developed by the government at the moment."

Described by the UN as one of the most persecuted minorities in the world, the Rohingya are not recognised by Myanmar and have been systematically driven out of the country into neighbouring Bangladesh. In military-led ethnic cleansing operations against the community, hundreds of thousands have been killed, tortured, injured, raped or displaced - and villages razed to the ground.

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Genocide: Gambia to file case against Myanmar at ICJ

UNB NEWS

October 20, 2019, 05:29 PM



Dhaka, Oct 20 (UNB) - Gambia will be taking Myanmar to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to face charges of genocide against its Rohingya minority, said Gambia's Attorney General and Minister for Justice Abubacarr Marie Tambadou.

The charges, which will be filed by the Gambian Ministry of Justice's legal team, will be the first time that the Myanmar authorities will be accused of the crimes of genocide at the International Court of Justice, according to Asia Justice Coalition.

"I can confirm that on October 4, I have instructed our lawyers to file the case at the International Court of Justice," the Asia Justice Coalition quoted Tambadou as saying at a conclave on 'Justice and Accountability for the Rohingya' at the Hague recently.

Bangladesh is hosting over 1.1 million Rohingyas and most of them entered Cox's Bazar since August 25, 2017 amid military crackdown against Rohingyas in Rakhine State.

Tambadou said, "I could smell the stench of genocide from miles away when I visited the Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar. It was all too familiar for me, after a decade of interacting with the victims of the Rwandan mass rapes, killings and genocide."

Tambadou previously served as a special assistant to the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

The crimes committed against the Rohingya people, he added, illustrate the failure of the international community to prevent genocide, 75 years after it committed itself to the promise of "never again" at the Nuremberg Trials.

The Conclave on Justice and Accountability for the Rohingya was co-convened by the Asia Justice Coalition and the Centre of Peace and Justice at BRAC University in Dhaka.

The Conclave was hosted at The Hague by the International Institute of Social Studies at Erasmus University.

Speakers at the Conclave included Bob Rae, Canada's Special Envoy to Myanmar, who affirmed the need to hold Myanmar accountable for crimes against the Rohingya.

More than 100 participants took part in the Conclave, including senior government officials, leading international human rights lawyers, human rights activists, and leaders of the Rohingya community, to discuss the issues of justice and accountability for the crimes against humanity committed against the Rohingya.

The Asia Justice Coalition, a co-convener of the Conclave, is a network of organisations promoting justice and accountability for gross violations of international human rights law in Asia.

Member organisations of the Asia Cooalition include Burmese Rohingya Organisation, Centre for Peace and Justice, Asia Justice and Rights, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the International Commission of Jurists.

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Lawyers for <u>The Gambia</u> said in a statement on Monday that the case also asks the International Court of Justice to urgently order measures "to stop Myanmar's genocidal conduct immediately".

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/11/11/gambia-files-rohingya-genocide-case-against-myanmar-at-un-court

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The Gambia filed the case on behalf of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

Myanmar's military unleashed a brutal campaign against the Rohingya in August 2017 in response to attacks by an armed group. More than 700,000 Rohingya fled to neighbouring Bangladesh to escape what has been called an ethnic cleansing campaign involving mass rapes, killings and burning of their homes.

The head of a UN fact-finding mission on <u>Myanmar</u> warned last month that "there is a serious risk of genocide recurring".

The mission also said in its final report in September that Myanmar should be held responsible in international legal forums for alleged genocide against the Rohingya, a majority-Muslim ethnic group that has long faced persecution in Buddhist-majority Myanmar.

Myanmar's UN ambassador Hau Do Suan last month called the UN fact-finding mission "one-sided" and based on "misleading information and secondary sources". He said Myanmar's government took accountability seriously and that perpetrators of all human rights violations "causing the large outflow of displaced persons to Bangladesh must be held accountable".

Last year, Myanmar rejected a report by UN investigators that called for top generals to be prosecuted for genocide, saying the international community was making "false allegations".

INSIDE STORY: Has the world failed Rohingya Muslims (24:30)

The case filed at the International Court of Justice, also known as the World Court, alleges that Myanmar's campaign against the Rohingya includes "killing, causing serious bodily and mental harm, inflicting conditions that are calculated to bring about physical destruction, imposing measures to prevent births, and forcible transfers, are genocidal in character because they are intended to destroy the Rohingya group in whole or in part".

Attorney General and Minister of Justice Abubacarr Marie Tambadou said in a statement: "The Gambia is taking this action to seek justice and accountability for the genocide being committed by Myanmar against the Rohingya, and to uphold and strengthen the global norm against genocide that is binding upon all states."

The International Criminal Court's prosecutor also asked judges at that court in July for permission to open a formal investigation into alleged crimes against humanity committed against the long-persecuted Rohingya from Myanmar.

Fatou Bensouda said she wanted to investigate crimes of deportation, inhumane acts and persecution allegedly committed as Rohingya were driven from Myanmar, which is not a member of the global court, into Bangladesh, which is.

The International Criminal Court holds individuals responsible for crimes while the International Court of Justice settles disputes between nations. Both courts are based in The Hague.

Anadolu Agency (Turkey), "Gambia files Rohingya genocide case against Myanmar", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/gambia-files-rohingya-genocide-case-againstmyanmar/1641869

WORLD, AFRICA, ROHINGYA GENOCIDE CASE AT ICJ

Gambia files Rohingya genocide case against Myanmar

West African nation files lawsuit at UN's highest court, a move supported by 10 non-governmental organizations

Riyaz ul Khaliq | 11.11.2019



ANKARA

Gambia filed a genocide lawsuit at the UN's highest court over Myanmar's treatment of its minority Rohingya Muslim community, said an international rights group on Monday.

In a statement from The Hague, the New York-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) said Gambia filed the case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for violating the Genocide Convention.

"It will bring the first judicial scrutiny of Myanmar's campaign of murder, rape, arson, and other atrocities against Rohingya Muslims," the statement said.

According to Amnesty International, more than 750,000 Rohingya refugees, mostly women and children, have fled Myanmar and crossed into Bangladesh after Myanmar forces launched a crackdown on the minority Muslim community in August 2017, pushing the number of persecuted people in Bangladesh above 1.2 million.

Under the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, if convicted, Myanmar may face punishment including sanctions.

Both Gambia and Myanmar are signatories of the 1948 Genocide Convention.

"Gambia's legal action triggers a judicial process before the world's highest court that could determine that Myanmar's atrocities against the Rohingya violate the Genocide Convention," said Param-Preet Singh, a HRW official.

"The court's prompt adoption of provisional measures could help stop the worst ongoing abuses against the Rohingya in Myanmar," Singh added.

A total of 10 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including the HRW, have extended their support to initiative led by Gambia to bring Myanmar to world's top court of justice.

"In its first Genocide Convention case, the ICJ imposed provisional measures against Serbia in 1993 and eventually found that Serbia had violated

its duty to prevent and punish genocide in Bosnia-Herzegovina," the statement recalled.

Canada, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Turkey, and France have asserted that Myanmar committed genocide against the Rohingya, the rights body said.

Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou, who also serves as attorney general of the West African country, met with representatives of the NGOs in The Hague to discuss the case which the HRW said was welcomed by several representatives of the Rohingya community.

Bangladesh welcomes Gambia's move

Bangladeshi Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen praised Gambia for its move to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Myanmar atrocity against Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State.

"The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) states have taken a stand against the crimes. Gambia has proceeded the lawsuit on behalf of the OIC and we appreciate it," Momen told Anadolu Agency.

"They [Myanmar] must have some accountability [for crimes against Rohingya]. We do not want any recurrence of such crimes," he said.

"Myanmar has already punished some criminals who have committed crimes against humanity in Rakhine but it was not very comprehensive. I think this time Myanmar should realize their accountability [to ensure justice]," Momen added.

Persecuted people

Since Aug. 25, 2017, nearly 24,000 Rohingya Muslims have been killed by Myanmar's state forces, according to a report by the Ontario International Development Agency (OIDA).

More than 34,000 Rohingya were also thrown into fires, while over 114,000 others were beaten, said the OIDA report, titled "Forced Migration of Rohingya: The Untold Experience."

Some 18,000 Rohingya women and girls were raped by Myanmar's army and police and over 115,000 Rohingya homes were burned down and 113,000 others vandalized, it added.

*Md. Kamruzzaman from Bangladesh contributed to this report

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1/3/2021





NEWS

Gambia files genocide case against Myanmar

Gambia has lodged a grievance with the United Nations' top court, calling for an end to genocide in Myanmar. The Southeast Asian country is accused of using rape and murder to persecute its Rohingya Muslim minority.





Gambia filed a case on Monday accusing Myanmar of genocide against its Muslim-minority Rohingya people.

In a statement, lawyers for the Gambian government urged the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to order measures to "stop Myanmar's genocidal conduct immediately."

Read more: Rohingya people in Myanmar: What you need to know

The country filed the case on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

The Myanmar military launched a counterinsurgency operation in 2017, after an insurgent attack. The campaign targeted Rohingya areas, and allegedly saw atrocities committed against civilians who were driven from their homes.



https://www.dw.com/en/gambia-files-genocide-case-against-myanmar/a-51199168

Annex 150 Gambia files genocide case against Myanmar | News | DW | 11.11.2019

Ano militanta tightaning grip on Polying a2

More than 700,000 Rohingya fled to neighboring Bangladesh, with claims that they were forced out through the use of mass rapes, killings and burning of their homes.

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Gambia's statement alleges that "killing, causing serious bodily and mental harm, inflicting conditions that are calculated to bring about physical destruction, imposing measures to prevent births, and forcible transfers, are genocidal in character because they are intended to destroy the Rohingya group in whole or in part."

Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Marie Tambadou said the action was being taken to "uphold and strengthen the global norm against genocide that is binding upon all states."



inside bangladesh's isolated 'rohingya island' Far from the mainland

Bhasan Char, which means "floating island" in Bengali language, emerged less than 20 years ago in the Bay of Bengal. The island is located 30 kilometers (18.6 miles) away from mainland Bangladesh. The government of the Muslim-majority country plans to relocate some 100,000 Rohingya refugees to this island from overcrowded Cox's Bazar refugee camps.

Risk of return to genocide

The head of a UN fact-finding mission on Myanmar last month warned of a "serious risk of genocide recurring."

Read more: Rohingya refugees steer clear of planned repatriation to Myanmar

In response, Myanmar's UN ambassador, Hau Do Suan, claimed that the UN mission had been onesided and "based on misleading information and secondary sources." He said the Myanmar government — a signatory of the 1948 Genocide Convention — took accountability seriously. The convention compels signatory states to prevent and punish genocide.

Prosecutors at the International Criminal Court (ICC) in July asked its own judge for permission to open a formal investigation into the alleged crimes against humanity in Myanmar.

The ICJ rules on disputes between nations, while the ICC rules on crimes allegedly committed by individuals.

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New York Times (USA), "Myanmar Genocide Lawsuit Is Filed at United Nations Court", 11 November 2019

Available at:

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/11/world/asia/myanmar-rohingya-genocide.html

Annex 151 Myanmar Genocide Lawsuit Is Filed at United Nations Court - The New York Times

The New Hork Times | https://nyti.ms/2Qd3rVE

Myanmar Genocide Lawsuit Is Filed at United Nations Court

Gambia, on behalf of Rohingya Muslims, opens an international dispute with Myanmar in an effort to have the country's leadership tried for genocide.

By Marlise Simons

Published Nov. 11, 2019 Updated Jan. 23, 2020

PARIS — An arsenal of international laws has failed to confront the impunity of Myanmar's government and security forces for their deadly purge of the country's Rohingya Muslim minority, forcing hundreds of thousands to flee a campaign of rape, arson and killing.

But on Monday, Gambia filed a lawsuit accusing Myanmar of genocide, summoning the case before the United Nations' highest court in an effort to open a legal path against the country's authorities.

In the suit, filed at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Gambia requested that the court condemn Myanmar for violating the Genocide Convention with its campaign of ethnic cleansing.

[Read: U.N. court orders Myanmar to protect Rohingya muslims.]

Gambia, a small West African country with a largely Muslim population, was chosen to file the suit on behalf of the 57-nation Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which is also paying for the team of top international law experts handling the case.

The filing amounts to a last-ditch effort to impose an international ruling against Myanmar: Despite a wide outcry over cruelty to the Rohingya, no other court has jurisdiction to pursue a genocide case against the country.

Gambia also requested that the International Court of Justice issue an urgent temporary injunction ordering Myanmar to halt all actions that could aggravate or expand the existing situation. That could mean a demand to stop further extrajudicial killings, rape, hate speech, or leveling of the homes where Rohingya once lived in Rakhine State.



Rohingya Muslims at one of the few undamaged mosques in Ngan Chaung, a village in the Maungdaw township in Rakhine State, Myanmar, in May. Adam Dean for The New York Times

"It is clear that Myanmar has no intention of ending these genocidal acts and continues to pursue the destruction of the group within its territory," the lawsuit said, adding that the government "is deliberately destroying evidence of its wrongdoings to cover up the crimes."

The court's 15 judges rarely deal with genocide. Based in the stately Peace Palace in The Hague, the Court of Justice was set up by the United Nations to rule on disputes between nations. It acts more like a court of appeal, focusing on questions of international law, such as disputes over borders or disagreements over international conventions.

But that can also include disputes arising from the Convention for the Punishment and Prevention of Genocide, established in an earlier case when Bosnia sued Serbia for genocide. The convention covers "acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such."

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https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/11/world/asia/myanmar-rohingya-genocide.html

1/3/2021

Annex 151

Myanmar Genocide Lawsuit Is Filed at United Nations Court - The New York Times

from Sam Sifton and NYT Cooking.

In its suit, Gambia claims that applies to Myanmar. The novelty in this case, though, is that Gambia is not at war with Myanmar, as Bosnia and Serbia were. But the Genocide Convention treaty does establish a mandate for member nations to act against genocide, wherever they are.

Experts say that if the court accepts the case, whatever the outcome, it will draw renewed attention to the immense suffering of the Rohingya people, most of whom fled to Bangladesh and now live in refugee camps there.

It is not clear how Myanmar, which has always denied accusations of ethnic cleansing and genocide and argues that it was defending itself against an insurgency, will respond to the case.

"Myanmar will ignore this at its peril," said John Packer, a professor of law at the University of Ottawa who has long studied the Rohingya's plight. If the court hears the case, he said, "there will be a sort of public truth-finding exercise. Myanmar's simple denials will not stand up to scrutiny."

A different body, the International Criminal Court, was specifically created to prosecute genocide and other atrocities. But that court has no jurisdiction over cases in Myanmar because the country has not signed on to the court's treaty. (Neither have the United States, China, India, Israel and several other countries.)

But the I.C.C. did set itself up to at least partly take up the case against Myanmar last year, when it ruled that it could prosecute for "deportation" and associated crimes against Rohingya who fled to Bangladesh, which is a court member. But judges have not yet approved a criminal investigation by the court's prosecutor.



Remains of a razed Rohingya quarter of the village of Inn Din, Maungdaw Township, in May. Adam Dean for The New York Times

Gambia's lawsuit against Myanmar was born out of a series of meetings of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at which the country's attorney general, Abubacarr M. Tambadou, assumed a position of leadership because of his special expertise. He had worked more than a decade as a lawyer at the United Nations tribunal dealing with the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

In a telephone interview, Mr. Tambadou said he had been very moved by his visit to the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh.

"The world failed Rwanda when the international community did not prevent the genocide while it was unfolding," he said. "The treatment of the Rohingya is illustrative of the international community's failure to prevent genocide in Myanmar. I thought this was not right. The world cannot stand by and do nothing."

The resulting lawsuit, seen by The New York Times, leans heavily on reports by United Nations fact-finding missions and what it calls other credible sources.

Multiple United Nations investigations have underscored what they called a genocidal intent behind the campaign against the Rohingya.

It says that all members of the Rohingya group in Myanmar are presently in grave danger of further genocidal acts because of Myanmar's deliberate and intentional efforts to destroy them as a group. It also stresses that the remaining Rohingya communities and individuals in Myanmar continue to face daily threats of death, torture, rape, starvation and other deliberate actions aimed at their collective destruction, in whole or in part.

The lawsuit notes that Rohingya Muslims have been subjected to persecution for decades in Myanmar, which denies that the Rohingya even exist as an established ethnic minority, despite hundreds of years of history in the country.

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/11/world/asia/myanmar-rohingya-genocide.html

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Annex 151

Myanmar Genocide Lawsuit Is Filed at United Nations Court - The New York Times

But pressure increased greatly in late 2016, according to the lawsuit. It cites examples of "attacks in which homes were set ablaze by security forces, in many cases with people trapped inside, and entire villages razed to the ground."

One investigator documented cases where parents saw their young children being thrown into fires. The suit cites incidents of Myanmar's "security forces calling families out of their homes, separating men and boys to be executed in front of their families or taken away." It cites testimony about women and girls being raped and then killed.

The suit says that so-called "clearance operations" were genocidal acts, "intended to destroy the Rohingya as a group, in whole or in part, by the use of mass murder, rape and other forms of sexual violence, as well as the systematic destruction by fire of their villages, often with inhabitants locked inside burning houses."

It said that from August 2017 onward, such "clearance operations" intensified.

Paul Reichler, the lead lawyer on the Gambia team, said he hoped that the court would issue an injunction against Myanmar as soon as possible.

"We are confident that genocide has been committed in this case, and we are very confident in the fairness of the court."

A version of this article appears in print on , Section A, Page 4 of the New York edition with the headline: In Lawsuit, Myanmar Is Accused Of Genocide

Jakarta Post (Indonesia), "RI defends approach to Rohingya problem", 19 November 2019

DOW JONES

Th<mark>eJakartaPo</mark>st

RI defends approach to Rohingya problem

Dian Septiari, The Jakarta Post, Jakarta 713 words 19 November 2019 The Jakarta Post JKPOST 2 English (c) 2019 The Jakarta Post

Hope for life: A Bangladeshi man helps a Rohingya Muslim refugee disembark from a boat on the Bangladeshi shoreline of the Naf River after crossing the border from Myanmar in Teknaf on Sept. 30, 2017.(AFP/Fred Dufour)

With fresh pressure on Myanmar over the alleged genocide that had driven thousands of Rohingya Muslims out of the country, Indonesia urged the international community to stop "pointing fingers" at the Buddhist-majority country and build trust through dialogue instead.

Myanmar was faced last week with renewed pressure internationally over a 2017 military crackdown on the Rohingya, which United Nations investigators insisted was carried out with "genocidal intent". More than 730,000 people have fled to Bangladesh to avoid persecution.

The small African nation of Gambia moved on Monday to hold Myanmar accountable for the refugee crisis, bringing the country to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted on Thursday a resolution on the human rights situation for Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, filed by the United Arab Emirates and Finland on behalf of the OIC and the European Union. It was followed by an announcement that the International Criminal Court (ICC) had approved a prosecution request to investigate crimes against humanity, which was rejected by Myanmar.

In June, the OIC condemned the "inhumane" situation of the minority and urged Myanmar to put an end to the violence, reminding it of the responsibility to protect its citizens.

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The moves were partly a result of efforts devised by the OIC contact group on Myanmar, which had focused on drafting strategies to deal with the Rohingya refugee crisis, said Kamapradipta Isnomo, the Foreign Ministry's international organizations for developing countries director.

"There is a sense of solidarity with the Rohingya refugees to pressure Myanmar, but Indonesia was the only OIC member that took a different approach -- we have to build trust and confidence in Myanmar so that they want to open up to us," Kama said on Monday.

The world's largest Muslim-majority country has refused to use a carrot-and-stick approach on its Southeast Asian neighbor, underscoring the complicated nature of conflict in Myanmar by choosing to label the plight of the Rohingya as part of a wider humanitarian crisis.

Myanmar's permanent representative to the UN said the resolution "grossly mischaracterized" the complex issues in Rakhine state that involved cross-border migration, poverty, lack of rule of law and security, according to the UN website.

At the UNGA, Kama said Indonesia was actively involved in revising the draft UN resolution sponsored by the OIC and the EU to ensure the resulting document remained balanced and that it recognized Myanmar's own efforts to address the issue, as well as that of ASEAN through its humanitarian response agency, the AHA Center.

The chairman of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, Marzuki Darusman, said Indonesia played a significant role in establishing a bridge between Myanmar, Southeast Asia and the international community so that everyone was able to get a full picture of the conflict. "As a nonpermanent member of both the UN Security Council and the UN Human Rights Council, while also being the most important member of ASEAN, Indonesia has the flexibility to gain information more holistically, something that other countries don't have."

Marzuki said a new factor that Indonesia must address was Vietnam's return to the UN Security Council next year. "Indonesia should talk to Vietnam and reach a common understanding on the issue, so that Vietnam may persuade other CMLV [Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam] countries [on how] to communicate with the international community," he said.

Speaking to journalists after a meeting with Vice President Ma'ruf Amin, Myanmar's ambassador to Indonesia, Ei Ei Khin Aye, said her country was committed to ensuring security in the repatriation process but added that "prejudice would delay" the effort and make the situation more difficult for her government.

The repatriation, she said, would depend on understanding from both sides. She insisted it was still very difficult for her government to meet the Rohingya's demands for citizenship.

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-- Kharishar Kahfi contributed to this story.

Document JKPOST0020191118efbj0000d

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Bangladesh Post (Bangladesh), "Myanmar under global pressure", 26 November 2019

Available at:

https://bangladeshpost.net/posts/myanmar-under-global-pressure-18457



Sunday, January 3, 2021

Myanmar under global pressure

Hearing on Rohingya genocide at ICJ scheduled Dec 10-12



By Staff Correspondent

Published : 26 Nov 2019 09:29 PM | Updated : 07 Sep 2020 04:25 AM

Global pressure on Myanmar is increasing day by day for the Rohingya genocide in Rakhine state of Myanmar. The pressure on Myanmar and its military forces has been intensified after Gambia, a West African country, filed a case before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on charges of 'crimes against humanity'.

According to sources, public hearings for the case is scheduled to be held for three days from December 10 to 12. Besides, members of the United Nations (UN), Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), different global human rights organisations and a number of countries are also expected to place evidences regarding the ethnic cleansing, mass-killing and raping incidents in Rakhine during the hearing.

Diplomatic analysts suspect although Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who is a Nobel Peace Laureate, earlier had announced to defend Myanmar at court, might not take part in the hearing at last. Diplomatic analyst Waliur Rahman, a former ambassador, said, Gambia must submit all the necessary information and evidences before the court to make its initiative a success. They might collect the evidence from different sources, including Bangladesh. The crisis Bangladesh is facing due to Rohingyas refugees should also be highlighted. In total, it is a viable opportunity for Bangladesh.'

'Lies that Myanmar is spewing as part of its refusal to take back 11 lakh Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh must also be highlighted. Meanwhile, various international and human rights organisations, including the UN, are very much aware of the torture on Rohingya people. They came to know about it from the Rohingyas, who fled to Bangladesh. They found proofs of genocide in Myanmar', said Waliur Rahman.

He further said, "As a member of the OIC, we will be able to provide evidence on Myanmar's genocide and crimes it committed against the humanity.' An official of the Foreign Ministry said, Bangladesh is preparing to present evidence in the December hearing. Gambia will be provided evidences along with video footage. The official said Bangladesh does not want to ruin bilateral relations with Myanmar and that is why Bangladesh is not a prosecuting party.

The Foreign Ministry official also said that a genocide case was filed against Myanmar by the OIC. The decision was made at the last OIC conference in presence of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. The official said, "Question could have been raised on why did Bangladesh not file the case and why a country like Gambia did it. The point here is clear; Gambia's case is strong because it has no geopolitical or any other motive. Gambia will present the real situation with information and evidence. Myanmar will be trialed for genocide if strong evidence is submitted against it. Saudi Arabia also had wanted to file a lawsuit."

State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Shahriar Alam said that Bangladesh favors a peaceful solution to the Rohingya issue. As a state, it has never taken any stand against Myanmar. The issue of genocide has gone to the international court. Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou brought serious charges, including massacre, rape and burning of houses, against Myanmar in a 46-page charge-sheet before the International Court of Justice of Gambia.

Another official of the Foreign Ministry said that the case filed by Gambia on behalf of the OIC against Myanmar at the UN International Court of Justice (ICJ) will be heard in Hague in The Netherlands from December 10 to 12. Aung San Suu Kyi might go to Hague to attend a hearing on behalf of the military junta.

Shahriar Kabir, president of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, said the international organisations have all information while the 11 lakh Rohingyas, who survived the persecution of Myanmar's military, are the biggest evidence. 'Bangladesh also has the opportunity to work in the case against Myanmar in the United Nations International Court. We have to proceed with caution. Suu Kyi herself is under pressure in the Gambia case. After this incident, all her awards except Nobel have been withdrawn" he said.

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Editor-In-Chief: Sharif Shahab Uddin. Published By Rick Haque Sikder.

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Liberté (Algeria), "Les états de l'OCI saisissent la Cour internationale de justice", 1 December 2019

Available at:

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Radar / Actualités

Génocide des Rohingyas par la Birmanie

Les états de l'OCI saisissent la Cour internationale de justice



© D. R.

Les 57 états membres de

l'Organisation de la coopération islamique (OCI) ont mandaté, hier la Gambie pour entamer une action judiciaire devant la Cour internationale de justice (CIJ) contre la Birmanie pour ses "actes de génocide" à l'encontre de la minorité musulmane des Rohingyas.

La Gambie accuse la Birmanie d'avoir violé la Convention pour la prévention et la répression du crime de génocide. Les Rohingyas "ont été victimes d'actes de violence injustifiés et de dégradation perverse, accompagnés de l'intention spécifique des acteurs étatiques de détruire les Rohingyas en tant que groupe", a déclaré le ministère gambien de la Justice.

The Interpreter, "In conversation: Malaysia's Foreign Minister on great power rivalry", 4 December 2019

Available at:

https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/conversation-malaysias-foreign-minister-great-power-rivalry

In conversation: Malaysia's Foreign Minister on great power rivalry

Ben Bland

Since Malaysia's remarkable election last year delivered a victory to the Pakatan Harapan coalition, Malaysia's Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah has been struggling to navigate a region increasingly defined by great power competition, whether in trade or the South China Sea On a trip to Sydney last week, he sat down with Ben Bland, the Director of the Southeast Asia Project at the Lowy Institute, to discuss Malaysia's foreign policy, from the impact of US–China tensions to the future of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and from the Rohingya crisis to the meaning of the Indo-Pacific

This is an edited transcript of their conversation

Is Malaysia getting caught in the intensifying US-China rivalry?

Malaysia wants to trade with US and China at the same time So yes, there is that pressure but we remain steadfast with the fact that we want to trade with China, and we told our American counterparts that we understand your problem with China, but that's your problem We want to trade with China as much as we want to trade with Iran



Malaysia's Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah at a Lowy Institute roundtable in Sydney

The US has been leaning on Malaysia and other Southeast Asian nations not to work with Huawei or take on Belt and Road Initiative projects. Has Washington's pressure worked, or is it alienating Southeast Asian nations?

We are very sure that we do not want to act in any way that is pro whichever country or superpower But we are also very clear that there are lots of things we can learn from China in as far as their technology advancement is concerned. It so happens that Huawei is one of the main companies involved in many of these new technologies, be it robotics or artificial intelligence.

But, of course, when we say we want to learn from China, we are wary of the fact that China, the government in Beijing, uses this kind of technology sometimes in ways that we are very sure we are not going to use it I don't think we want to do facial recognition by having cameras placed all over the country

Are we really entering a new era of great power contestation?

We have been dealing with China for thousands of years By saying that I'm not saying Malaysia is well equipped We know that China is a superpower And we have the US It's not just [about] trade between the two It's also security, especially the South China Sea And again, we have to navigate between the two powers

It so happens that both superpowers are there in the South China Sea without invitation from any of the ASEAN member states

China is very active in the South China Sea We have been telling our friends in Beijing that as much as we respect their rights for free passage and flight according to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ... that too much activity is not going to be helpful But, at the same time, there is the US presence also in the South China Sea, and it so happens that both superpowers are there without invitation from any of the ASEAN member states

I'm not saying that we're happy because both of them are there [But] the scenario would be very different if only one of them were there So, maintaining the balance is [number] one Number two is trying to impress upon both the US and China that as much as we are not going to stop them from being there, we are also not very pleased that both of them are too active in the region



Lowy Institute Southeast Asia Project director Ben Bland

Given the divisions in many multilateral institutions, does it make sense to promote more trilateral or "minilateral" cooperation in the region?

We have to be very practical in the things we do in foreign affairs On the one hand, we need to strengthen whatever platform is already there ASEAN is premium for Malaysia We want to do as much as we can through ASEAN

But having said that, we are also looking at partners in specific activities or projects and that's why we're talking to Turkey and Pakistan [about how to combat Islamophobia] I don't like to use the term we normally use in foreign affairs: "like-minded countries" Then it becomes very formal When people ask me *what is this Malaysia, Turkey, Pakistan thing?* [I say] we're strengthening our bilateral ties among the three

In a way, it is also done out of frustration that some already existing platforms don't seem to be doing what they should be doing In particular, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Many member states are not happy with the way the OIC is doing its work. We are not going to ditch OIC - it remains one of the most important platforms. We need to continuously try to improve the way OIC does its thing

How can you streamline ASEAN to make it more effective and responsive?

ASEAN lacks leadership The rotational system [of country chairmanship] to my mind is not going to improve the question of leadership But I think it has been a very successful regional grouping. It started in 1967 out of fear of communism, and then it grew to become ten and hopefully we can grow to become 11 with the inclusion of Timor-Leste The challenge now is to strengthen the economic pillar of the ASEAN project

When will Timor-Leste be allowed to join ASEAN?

Malaysia has stated from day one that we want Timor-Leste to be in, but I think there are one or two member states who think that we need to ensure that Timor-Leste is properly prepared to be a member, and that is why the fact-finding mission [on Timor-Leste's readiness to join ASEAN] was established

We don't know what's the end game and when So it is of utmost importance that we look at the education of the Rohingya children

They have completed part of their work and I'm really hoping that we can have Timor-Leste as a member as quickly as possible They have expressed that they're quite frustrated that they have waited for eight years

ASEAN launched its "Outlook on the Indo-Pacific" in June but the "Indo-Pacific" isn't part of Malaysia's foreign policy lexicon. Do you think it's a useful concept?

ASEAN is a region that is so unique Some countries in certain parts of ASEAN don't really think Indo-Pacific is important. But because we understand the consensus spirit and also the collegiality of ASEAN, and ASEAN's centrality in doing things, we altogether supported the idea that was mooted by Indonesia

Credit must be given to the Indonesian government But we were very careful in the way we crafted our position, hence the title, the "ASEAN Outlook" It's like saying Indo-Pacific is important but for ASEAN it is probably not as important as [for] other people Also, because we take note of the fact that there are at least two opposing views of the Indo-Pacific, we are trying to be very fair in way we look at the Indo-Pacific We didn't try to give it a meaning but tried to give a response to what was already there



You've previously called for justice for the perpetrators of the genocide of the Rohingya in Myanmar. Do you support Gambia bringing a case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice?

Indirectly, we are supporting the Gambia initiative, because we are a member of the OIC, and this is a decision that was made through the OIC. The second thing is, we have not decided on our actual position, because the process will require time and resources. I know that Gambia cannot do it alone, in terms of resources. The OIC secretariat will have to decide as to how member countries play a role, and by that time Malaysia will have to have a proper position on it.

What will happen to the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh? Is there a risk that the world and Myanmar will wash their hands of the problem?

What we don't want to happen is for the world to forget them The least we can do is ensure the issue will always be on the agenda in all of the relevant international forums, and we will be steadfast in making sure we continuously speak on this subject

Number two is ... the education of the children We don't know what's the end game and when So it is of utmost importance that we look at the education of the Rohingya children We have about 150,000 Rohingya in Malaysia now – some are with the UNHCR [refugee identity] card, some are without The Malaysian government cannot afford to absorb the children in our schools; we don't have enough schools ourselves or enough teachers What we are doing is we encourage our civil society organisations to organise classes for them

There are 27 references to human rights in your new foreign policy framework. It's obviously something you take seriously. But how lonely is it pursuing human rights in Southeast Asia these days?

It can be quite lonely But at least we have the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and there are members of AICHR who are very active And there is a vibrant civil society community. In some member states, they enjoy better freedom than others, and we are trying to motivate them ... and facilitate wherever possible

Malaysia recently came under pressure from Cambodia to deny entry to Mu Sochua, the Cambodian opposition activist. After she was detained initially at the airport, you allowed her to enter and stay for a few days. How do you weigh the ASEAN principle of non-interference in others' internal affairs against the human rights you want to promote?

We try to impress upon our friends, our member states, or people from outside ASEAN that Malaysia wants to uphold certain principles Not that we can always do it well For example, we have been criticised that we have not said anything on the Uighur [issue], compared to what we have been saying about Palestine, the Rohingya, and Kashmir

It's not something that we can easily answer, and even if we try to answer, not everyone will be receptive of our answer. But what I can say is we try as much as possible to implement it at home and to champion it in international forums. There is a Malay saying: "ukur baju di badan sendiri" [Literally: measure your clothes to fit your own body, or shape your ambitions in line with your capabilities]

Certain things we can do; certain things we cannot But at least we are doing something

Bangkok Post (Thailand), "Myanmar in the dock", 9 December 2019

Available at:

https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1811599/myanmar-in-the-dock

DOW JONES

Bangkok Post

breakingnews Myanmar in the dock

Larry Jagan 1,696 words 9 December 2019 Bangkok Post BKPOST English (c) 2019. The Post Publishing Public Company Limited. All Rights Reserved.

As leaders prepare to defend Rakhine crackdown, risk of economic fallout grows.

Tomorrow Myanmar embarks on the daunting task of defending itself against charges of genocide brought in the world's top judicial court, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague. But the focus on international legal issues has obscured another critical aspect of this crisis, the growing economic degradation of Rakhine, which is having an impact on the country as a whole.

The ICJ hearing has galvanised Myanmar's top leaders -- both military and civilian -- forcing them to cooperate and synchronise their approach to the ongoing crisis in the western state of Rakhine. Unfortunately, this will be of little consequence if the government does not address the fundamental problems of reconciliation and accountability in troubled regions of Myanmar.

More crucially, what happens in The Hague this week and Myanmar's practical response on the ground in Rakhine will have enormous ramifications on foreign investment, international aid and trade, especially from the West. Foreign businesspeople, already hesitant about investing in Myanmar, will be further discouraged, and Western governments may even resort to "informal" sanctions.

Meanwhile, military top brass, leading ministers -- including State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi -and top civil servants have been busy preparing the groundwork to counter accusations of genocide brought against them by The Gambia, on behalf of the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Aung San Suu Kyi will lead the Myanmar delegation, and has been appointed an agent of the court, which gives her standing to speak at the hearing. Prof William Schabas, a Canadian human

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rights lawyer and expert on genocide and international law, with substantial experience at the international courts in The Hague, is the chief legal representative. He will be joined by two other international legal experts on the team. The Myanmar legal team will be led by Attorney General Htun Htun Oo, with two senior military officers also on the team.

The hearings in The Hague are a wake-up call that the civilian government can no longer ignore, especially as Myanmar is a signatory to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and is thus bound by the decisions of the court. The hope is that the government will heed the importance of this development and engage with the international community that it has so far tended to shun, preferring to shelter behind its powerful friends -- China and Russia -- especially at the UN.

The government has been dogged by growing international criticism of its handling of the Rakhine crisis, and its failure to make the army accountable for its actions. The Rakhine troubles won't go away despite repeated efforts of government and military leaders to change the narrative. What is needed is a detailed plan for reconciliation, and to tackle the root causes of the problems that gave rise to the crisis.

The army has repeatedly been accused of leading a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Muslim Rohingya in Rakhine, forcing nearly a million to flee to neighbouring Bangladesh over the last three years. They are currently languishing in squalid camps as Bangladesh and Myanmar bicker over who is responsible for the failure to start an agreed repatriation programme.

The government and military leaders have repeatedly denied the accusations of ethnic cleansing and genocide, arguing that they were defending themselves against an insurgency. They have dismissed numerous UN reports alleging forced evictions, the razing of Muslim villagers' homes, rape and summary executions. They argue that it was a standard counter-insurgency clearance operation in response to terrorist attacks -- two deadly assaults by the Arakan Rohingya Solidarity Army (ARSA) in which 25 border guards and soldiers were killed: in October 2016 and August 2017.

But The Gambia has turned up the heat by going before the ICJ to assert that Myanmar is responsible for "killing, causing serious bodily and mental harm, inflicting conditions that are calculated to bring about physical destruction, imposing measures to prevent births, and forcible transfers, [which] are genocidal in character because they are intended to destroy the Rohingya group in whole or in part".

LENGTHY LEGAL PROCESS

This week's three-day public hearing is only the start of a legal process that could take 10 to 15 years to complete. The Gambia and Myanmar will present their cases on the first two days respectively. On the third day both states will make further "observations", and are expected to

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focus on preliminary measures that would be precautionary in effect. If adopted by the court they must be immediately implemented. The proceedings will all be streamed, live and on demand, on the ICJ website and UN Web TV.

Above all The Gambia is calling for an end to all further genocidal acts against members of the Rohingya group: "[including] extrajudicial killings or physical abuse; rape or other forms of sexual violence; burning of homes or villages; destruction of lands and livestock, deprivation of food and other necessities of life, or any other deliberate infliction of conditions of life calculated to bring about the physical destruction of the Rohingya group in whole or part"

The Muslim-majority west African country insist that all military, paramilitary or irregular armed units under Myanmar's control be effectively muzzled. It is also calling for a prohibition on the destruction, changing or hiding ("by physically altering locations") of evidence.

"It is clear that Myanmar has no intention of ending these genocidal acts and continues to pursue the destruction of the group within its territory," warns the lawsuit. The government "is deliberately destroying evidence of its wrongdoings to cover up the crimes", it added.

These measures, if ordered by the court, would severely constrain the military, especially if restrictions are placed on current military operations. It would especially affect the current campaign against the Arakan Army (AA), who are Buddhist rather than Muslims -- a conflict that has already caused massive dislocation of Buddhist Rakhine residents, with thousands forced to flee the fighting.

But with or without preliminary measures, Myanmar must finally take the bull by the horns when it comes to Rakhine, Yangon-based diplomats told Asia Focus. They believe the ICJ will not impose travel bans or formal sanctions, which takes some pressure off the government. Since the case is likely to drag on for some time, it gives Myanmar time get things right, they suggested. "They can soften the blow with mitigating circumstances, but need to act now," said a western legal expert, who declined to be identified.

Pressure will mount on the army to get its act straight, and on the civilian authority to ensure the army acts professionally. "This is now so serious, the government can no longer deflect, it must act," said a western diplomat on condition of anonymity. "Myanmar is in the dock, it's time to put substance to the rhetoric, starting with unfettered access to Rakhine, especially for the UN and NGOs -- both local and international."

But what is needed above all is an agreed, credible, consistent and coordinated strategy to improve the situation on the ground, including conditions that could be conducive for the return of refugees from Bangladesh. For the strategy to be successful, the strategy must apply to the whole of Rakhine -- including all religious communities. This is not a Rohingya issue, this is not a

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religious issue, this is a Rakhine issue.

ECONOMY SUFFERING

The Rakhine are also suffering as a result of the devastation that the mass exodus of Muslims has caused, and it is affecting the whole of the state, with an economic impact on the country as well. There has been an exodus of young Rakhine from the region: at least 30% have sought better opportunities in Myanmar and abroad, according to researchers doing fieldwork there, who also want to remain anonymous for fear of possible repercussions. Many Rakhine villages are depopulated, with only children and grandparents left, said one researcher.

The construction business in Rakhine is at a virtual standstill as most of the casual labourers who kept the industry going were Rohingya. Fishmongers in Sittwe and Yangon are complaining that for many months, none of the famous Rakhine dried fish has been in the market. This highly sought-after food is no longer available, as the Muslim fishermen have also disappeared. And the previously thriving tourism industry is virtually non-existent now.

As a result, alcoholism is rife throughout most of the communities. The sales for Grand Royal whisky -- the country's most popular and indigenously produced liquor -- are by far the highest in Rakhine, which is one of the least populated of the country's states or regions. Drug use is also on the increase, according to local aid workers.

The government already has in hand a credible and internationally endorsed roadmap for reconciliation and development. It was prepared by a Myanmar government-appointed commission headed by former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan and released shortly before the August 2016 ARSA attack that led to the military's draconian crackdown. The Annan report should form the basis for any solution in Rakhine.

In the meantime, all eyes will be on Myanmar's performance -- and particularly that of Aung San Suu Kyi -- in The Hague this week. Much is resting on a good outcome, especially the broader optics. Western governments, some of which are flirting with a stronger engagement with Myanmar, and foreign businesses will be anxiously following developments.

If Myanmar's defence goes off the rails, it will adversely affect international investor confidence. If it appears Myanmar was in fact engaged in "genocidal" acts and shows no signs of remorse, it could create a stampede of international investors out of the country. Even very supportive Asian investors -- from Japan, Korea, Singapore and Thailand – will be forced to have second thoughts.

At worst, Western governments in their haste to distance themselves from the Myanmar government -- if it is further tainted with genocide -- may adopt "informal" sanctions, warning or

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even pressuring their businesspeople and companies to disinvest. It would also be another death blow to tourism, though the growing hordes of Chinese tourists would be undaunted.

Document BKPOST0020191209efc9000b5

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Justice internationale. Aung San Suu Kyi va défendre la Birmanie, accusée du génocide des Rohingyas

COURRIER INTERNATIONAL - PARIS

Publié le 09/12/2019 - 17:07



Ministre des Affaires étrangères birmane et Prix Nobel de la paix, Aung San Suu Kyi mène devant la Cour internationale de justice de La Haye la délégation pour défendre son pays contre les accusations de génocide à l'encontre de la minorité musulmane des Rohingyas.

À partir du 10 décembre et durant trois jours, la Prix Nobel de la paix Aung San Suu Kyi défendra son pays devant la Cour internationale de justice (CIJ) de La Haye contre les accusations de génocide.

C'est en tant que ministre birmane des Affaires étrangères et conseillère d'État qu'Aung San Suu Kyi mènera la délégation chargée de plaider devant la CIJ.

La Gambie a saisi la CIJ en se fondant sur la convention pour la prévention et la répression du crime de génocide, dont la Birmanie est signataire depuis 1956. Une convention qui vise *"à prévenir ou à punir"* le génocide.

Aung San Suu Kyi va défendre la Birmanie, accusée du génocide des Rohingyas

"C'est la première fois qu'un pays membre de la convention sur le génocide saisit la CIJ contre un autre pays membre alors qu'il n'est pas directement touché par les actions de ce dernier," précise le magazine birman **Frontier**.

La Gambie, située à plus de 10 000 kilomètres de la Birmanie, agit au nom de l'Organisation de la coopération islamique (OCI), qui rassemble 57 pays musulmans.

Opérations antiterroristes ou génocide?

La CIJ devra "examiner la responsabilité de l'État birman et déterminer si la Birmanie a commis ou a échoué à empêcher un génocide dans le nord de l'Arakan" contre la minorité musulmane des Rohingyas.

Depuis octobre 2016, près d'un million de musulmans ont fui la province de l'Arakan vers le Bangladesh pour échapper aux opérations de l'armée birmane. Opérations militaires menées suite aux attaques de l'Armée de secours des Rohingyas de l'Arakan (Arsa) contre des postes-frontières.

Des rapports des Nations unies ont constaté des violations des droits de l'homme de grande ampleur contre les Rohingyas et parlent d'une campagne de *"nettoyage ethnique"* aux intentions génocidaires. Des accusations contestées de manière récurrente par le gouvernement et l'armée birmanes.

Ce n'est pas un hasard si la Gambie est en première ligne dans ce dossier, au vu de l'implication de son ministre de la Justice, Abubacarr Tambadou, dans le Tribunal pénal international pour le Rwanda, comme le note *Frontier*.

Un soutien populaire à l'intérieur

La CIJ devra également statuer sur des demandes de réparations, sous forme notamment du retour des réfugiés rohingyas, <u>du respect de leur citoyenneté et de leurs droits</u>, et d'une protection contre la discrimination.

En Birmanie, <u>constate le **Bangkok Post**</u>, des manifestations de soutien – organisées par le parti au pouvoir, la Ligue nationale pour la démocratie – ont eu lieu dans la capitale économique Rangoon et dans d'autres villes du pays.

D'immenses affiches de soutien à Aung San Suu Kyi et aux militaires ont fait leur apparition dans les rues. Des agences de voyage ont organisé des séjours sur mesure à La Haye pour accompagner la délégation officielle du gouvernement birman.

Le quotidien thaïlandais constate qu'Aung San Suu Kyi a refusé d'écouter les avertissements des diplomates lui déconseillant de prendre la tête de l'équipe de défense devant la CIJ.

1/3/2021

Aung San Suu Kyi va défendre la Birmanie, accusée du génocide des Rohingyas

À La Haye, Suu Kyi et son administration estiment avoir *"l'opportunité de faire valoir leur version de l'histoire et de mettre en avant la position du gouvernement", écrit le Bangkok Post.*

De leur point de vue, poursuit le quotidien, ce qui se passe en Arakan n'a rien d'un génocide et d'un nettoyage ethnique. Il s'agit d'une politique *"antiterroriste".*

D'autres procès à venir?

Le gouvernement espère être entendu et "faire évoluer le discours dominant".

"Ce que le gouvernement doit comprendre, précise le quotidien thaïlandais, c'est qu'il sera jugé sur les mesures prises pour endiguer la discrimination et le conflit en Arakan. Et sa capacité à avoir fait montre de regrets."

Au niveau international, la Cour pénale internationale (CPI) a également été saisie du dossier, et une plainte a été déposée en Argentine contre Aung San Suu Kyi au nom du principe de la compétence universelle.

De fait, remarque le *Bangkok Post*, ce que la Prix Nobel de la paix dira à La Haye pourrait alimenter les autres poursuites. —

3/3

Egypt Today (Egypt), "Nobel 'peace laureate' defends genocide against Rohingya Muslims", 11 December 2019

Available at:

https://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/78597/Nobel-peace-laureate-defends-genocideagainst-Rohingya-Muslims Annex 158 Nobel 'peace laureate' defends genocide against Rohingya Muslims - EgyptToday





Nobel 'peace laureate' defends genocide against Rohingya Muslims

BY Egypt Today staff

Wed, 11 Dec 2019 - 11:28 GMT





Ethnic Rohingya Muslim refugees hold placards, many with portraits of Aung San Suu Kyi and shout slogans during a protest against the persecution of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar, outside the Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur on Friday. AFP/MANAN VATSYAYANA

CAIRO – 11 December 2019: Myanmar's civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi and "Nobel peace laureate" told the UN's top court on Wednesday that allegations that Myanmar had committed genocide against Rohingya Muslims were "misleading and incomplete".

https://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/78597/Nobel-peace-laureate-defends-genocide-against-Rohingya-Muslims

1/3/2021

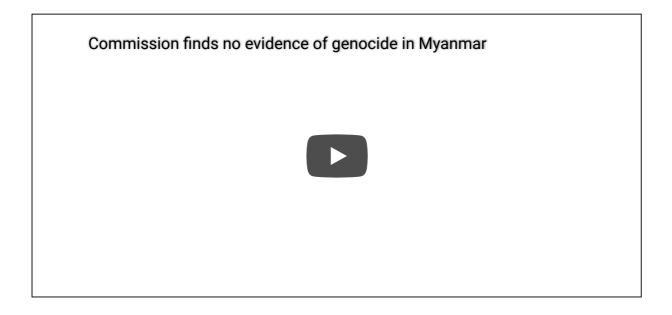
Investigators working for the United Nations' human rights agency said Monday Myanmar's army chief and other top commanders should be prosecuted for genocide against the country's ethnic-Rohingya Muslims.

Addressing a bench of 17 judges from around the world, 74-year-old Aung San Suu Kyi, blamed the conflict on an uprising by separatist insurgents.

Her speech to the UN' highest tribunal came on the second day of an emergency legal hearing convened to consider whether protective "provisional measures" should be imposed to prevent further killings and destruction in Myanmar.

The charge that Myanmar's military carried out mass murder, rape and destruction of Rohingya Muslim communities has been raised by the Gambia.

Speakers for Gambia detailed the evidence gathered by the UN and other groups that security forces shot hundreds of Rohingya in their homes, killed children and infants, and gang-raped women during a military campaign in 2017.



More than 700,000 Rohingya were forced to flee Myanmar for neighboring Bangladesh as a result of the campaign, which forms a major part of the genocide case.

"I stand before you to awaken the conscience of the world and to arouse the voice of the

Nobel 'peace laureate' defends genocide against Rohingya Muslims - EgyptToday

international community," said Abubacarr Tambadou, Gambia's justice minister, who was a prosecutor in cases relating to the Rwandan genocide of the 1990s and is leading his country's lawsuit against Myanmar. "We ask: Why? Why is the world standing by and allowing such horrors again in our lifetime?"

Myanmar's government has dismissed reports of mass violence and accused the U.N. fact-finding team and human rights groups of being biased and exaggerated.

Gambia filed the case on behalf of the 57-nation Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which says its mission is to protect the interests of Muslims. The court is expected to rule on the issue of provisional measures within 30 days of the close of the hearings, according to Paul Reichler, a lawyer for Gambia in the case.

V.N.	United Nations	Myanmar	Gambia	Rohingya	
Comments					0
Leave a Comment					
Name		Email			
Title					

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The Sydney Morning Herald

World Asia Human rights

This was published 1 year ago

'She won't be spared': Rohingya refugees reject Aung San Suu Kyi's genocide denial

December 12, 2019 - 10.06am

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10	View all comments					

Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh: Rohingya refugees accused former Myanmar prodemocracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi of lying to the International Court of Justice in testimony on Wednesday in which she <u>denied that her country's armed forces</u> were guilty of genocide against the Muslim minority group.



Rohingya refugees watch ICJ proceedings in a refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. GETTY

Suu Kyi, who is now Myanmar's leader, told the court that the exodus of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims to neighbouring Bangladesh was the unfortunate result of a battle with insurgents.

She denied that the army had killed civilians, raped women and torched houses in 2017. Critics describe the actions by the army as a deliberate campaign of ethnic https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/she-won-t-be-spared-rohingya-refugees-reject-aung-san-suu-kyi-s-genocide-denial-20191212-p53j8n.html

Rohingya refugees reject Aung San Suu Kyi's genocide denial

cleansing and genocide that forced more than 700,000 Rohingya to flee.

"The world will judge their claim of no genocide with evidence," said a Rohingya leader, Mohammed Mohibullah, who is chairman of the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights.

"A thief never admits he is a thief, but justice can be delivered through evidence. The world has obtained evidence from us," he said at the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar district.



Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi leaves the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands. AP

"Even if Suu Kyi lies, she won't be spared. She will certainly face justice. The world should take steps against her," he said.

Nur Kamal, another refugee at Kutupalong, also rejected Suu Kyi's testimony.

"The military cordoned off people and killed them by opening fire, setting them ablaze - isn't this genocide? Will this be justified if Syu Ki says so?" Kamal said.

"The world will not accept that. The whole world has seen the level of torture of us. It is still going on," he said.



Rohingya refugees warm themselves by a fire in a refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. $\ensuremath{\mathsf{GETTY}}$

A legal team from Gambia, acting on behalf of the 57-country Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, asked the International Court of Justice in The Hague to take "all measures within its power to prevent all acts that amount to or contribute to the crime of genocide" in Myanmar.

Gambia alleged that genocide was committed and is ongoing.

Suu Kyi accused Gambia of providing a misleading and incomplete account of what happened in Myanmar's Rakhine state in August 2017.

Her appearance at the court was striking in that she was defending the same military that kept her under house arrest for about 15 years.



Amnesty International withdrew the Myanmar leader's human rights award due to a "shameful betrayal of the values she once stood for".

She was awarded the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize in absentia for championing democracy and rights under Myanmar's then-ruling junta.

Buddhist-majority Myanmar has consistently denied violating human rights and says military operations in Rakhine state, where most Rohingya lived, were justified in response to attacks on security posts by Rohingya insurgents.

A UN-established investigation earlier recommended the prosecution of Myanmar's top military commanders on charges of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity for the crackdown on the Rohingya.

Earlier this year, the UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar said rapes of Rohingya by Myanmar's security forces were systemic and demonstrated the intent to commit genocide.

It said in a report the discrimination that Myanmar practiced against the Rohingya in peacetime aggravated the sexual violence toward them during times

3/4

of conflict.

Bangladesh and Myanmar have signed an agreement to start repatriation of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh, but two attempts failed when no one came forward to return voluntarily, citing continuing security concerns in Myanmar.

AP

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_A Dhaka<mark>Tribune</mark>



Home Bangladesh

Why didn't Bangladesh lodge the case with ICJ?

Humayun Kabir Bhuiyan



File photo: Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou and Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi attend a hearing in a case filed by Gambia against Myanmar alleging genocide against the minority Rohingya population, at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague on December 10, 2019Reuters

Bangladesh wanted to avoid direct confrontation that could have undermined the bilateral engagements with Myanmar in relation to Rohingya repatriation

The Gambia, the tiniest country in Africa, filed a case with the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, against Myanmar on November 11, alleging violations of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide through "acts adopted, taken and condoned by the government in Naypyitaw".

Filing the case, the attorney general and justice minister of The Gambia, Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, also asked the ICJ to impose provisional measures, as a matter of extreme urgency, to protect the Rohingya against further harm by ordering Myanmar to stop all of its genocidal conduct immediately.

The hearings on the provisional measures took place from December 10 to 12 at the ICJ based in The Hague, the capital of The Netherlands.

Both The Gambia and Myanmar placed their arguments before the top court of the world and now the judges are considering the deliberations placed before them by both parties.

Tambadou led The Gambia in the hearings while the Myanmar side was headed by state counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi, the de facto head of the government, in the capacity of the foreign minister.

A Bangladesh delegation attended the hearings, as it did not have any scope to directly be involved in the case. However, Bangladesh provided data and information in aid of The Gambia.

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Annex 160

Why didn't Bangladesh lodge the case with ICJ? | Dhaka Tribune

Now, a question is popping up in the minds of many people: Why did The Gambia file the case, not Bangladesh, as it is directly most affected by the atrocities against the Rohingya?

There are, apparently, two main reasons.

Bangladesh wanted to avoid a direct confrontation with Myanmar by filing the case, as it is bilaterally engaged with Myanmar in relation to the repatriation of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya sheltered in Cox's Bazar.

Dhaka and Naypyitaw also signed some bilateral instruments to repatriate the displaced people. Myanmar is reluctant to begin the repatriation anyway. The filing of the case by Bangladesh would have allowed Myanmar the opportunity to further dilly dally the repatriation process.

Bangladeshi and foreign diplomats have observed that Dhaka has done the right thing by not filing the case.

The Gambia was chosen to file the case as it is the chair of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) ad hoc ministerial committee on accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingya that was established at the 45th OIC council of foreign ministers meeting in Dhaka over May 5-6, 2018.

As the case was filed on behalf of the OIC, it will have the backing of the 57-member organization of the Muslim majority countries to make the case stronger. Furthermore, the OIC is funding the case.

Daily Sun (Bangladesh), "Challenges Ahead For Bangladesh", 3 January 2020

Available at:

https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/451278/Challenges-Ahead-For-Bangladesh

daily sun

Update : 2020-01-03 00:00:00 Special feature Challenges Ahead For Bangladesh Rajib Kanti Roy



Bangladesh has achieved significant success in many sectors in 2019 despite having a few reasonable questions regarding the standard of its democratic practice. Remittances grew by 9.8 percent, reaching a record USD 16.4 billion. Net foreign direct investment (FDI) increased by 42.9 percent from a low baseline with investments in the power, food, and textile sectors. Private consumption grew by 5.4 percent. The country's per capita income increased to USD 1,909. Foreign reserves reached USD 32 billion by the end of last October. The country has obtained record 8.13% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rate in later part of the year. And the government has projected that it will be raised to 8.2% after the completion of ongoing fiscal year. Bangladesh has also made spectacular progress in different socio-economic sectors in 2019, as far as reducing extreme poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality and empowering women, reducing child mortality and ensuring primary school enrolment are concerned. The country's biggest diplomatic success of the year was convincing Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to take Myanmar to International Court of Justice (ICJ) through Gambia for violating the Genocide Convention 1948. Besides, Bangladesh's appearance in the United Nations General Assembly and UN Climate Change Conference COP 25 impressed all. While we have a long list of accomplishments to our credit, .we have failed on some crucial fronts. Some issues surfaced quite as a challenge before our country. Apart from some of these old matters Bangladesh is going to face new challenges which will make the year 2020 an eventful one for us. Politically 2020 will be a very significant year for the country. It will celebrate the birth centenary of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and 'Mujib Year' this year. Successful arrangement of a series of programmes on this occasion will be a tough task. Besides, Bangladesh will commemorate the golden jubilee of its independence in 2021. All preparations for this mega celebration are to be taken this year. Lack of mutual trust has been a crucial issue of our politics which is escalating the distance between major political parties. This should be reduced in 2020 to observe the golden jubilee of its independence together. The citizens are struggling to find their relation with the state as their participation in the democratic system has become insignificant. Thus they are showing less interest about elections. The Dhaka north and south city corporation elections in January and Chattogram city corporation election in the mid of this year will be a real challenge for the election commission to regain that lost trust. Following the suspension of the controversial list of razakars (collaborators), which was published on December 15, Liberation War Affairs minister announced to publish a fresh list of razakars before the next Independence Day. Preparing an impeccable list of razakars will be a challenge for the government this year. 2019 was a year that brought severe sufferings for the people due to

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sudden price hike of several essential commodities like onion, and rice. In 2020, the government will have to prove their efficiency in controlling inflation. With hospitals packed with patients and an increasing tally of deaths and infections, mosquito-borne viral fever dengue stormed the whole country last year. As the Aedes mosquito spread throughout the country and no certain action plan has been taken yet to reduce the menace, it will be really hard to prevent another devastating dengue outbreak. Following the much talked-about road safety movement conducted by students parliament passed road transport act but when the government tried to implement it, transport owners and workers called transport strike. In the face of their noncooperation the government postponed the enforcement of a number of sections of the law till June 2020. The government will have a tough time while executing the law completely. Spread of corruption in every sphere of all the sectors is an ever-increasing concern for Bangladesh. It will be a great challenge for the government to control this everspreading corruption in all the sectors in 2020. Albeit Bangladesh has achieved some remarkable economic successes in 2019, its economy is at a crossroads. Year in year out tax revenue receipts fall short of budgetary targets and the last year was no different. The country's stock markets have been going through an unstable state for years. The situation deteriorated more in the last year as markets went through a lot of setbacks. Same thing happened to the banking sector. Despite the Finance Minister provided special offers to the loan defaulters for rescheduling loans, the total amount of defaulted bank loans stood Tk 116,288 crore with an increase of Tk 22,377 in the first nine months of 2019. On the other hand, the government is depending more on the loan from the banking sector to bear its expenses. It targeted to borrow a total of Tk 47,363 crore from the banking sector in 2019-20 FY but it already took Tk 44,774 crore within the first six months. One and a half years after taking the decision the Finance Minister finally said banks would charge a maximum interest rate of nine per cent for all types of loans and six per cent for deposit from April 1 next year. Still economists are not sure that whether this decision will be implemented or not. Combating all these ongoing challenges ensuring good governance in the economic sector this year will be no walk in the park for the government. Like the last year stalemate situation of the Rohingya crisis is still one of the biggest challenges for Bangladesh. It seems that Myanmar will continue asking displaced Rohingyas to return to their country without ensuring a safe environment for them and the persecuted Rohingyas will refuse to return to their country until they get citizenship. Gambia's case in the ICJ certainly will increase pressure on Myanmar. But at least two to three years will be required to get a verdict from there. Yet Bangladesh will keep close eyes on the court proceedings. Myanmar will hold its next general election in November 2020. Till then its de facto State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi will not take any step which may give advantage to the military-aligned Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) against her National League for Democracy (NLD). Meanwhile, continuous insurgent activities of the Arakan Army are keeping the country's law enforcement agencies restless. Their changed attitude towards the Rohingyas may instigate the jobless refugee Rohingya youths to join them and take up arms. It can create serious threat to both Bangladesh and Myanmar. Therefore Bangladesh will have to work a lot on security issues in 2020. Again a general concern was noticed across Bangladesh after India's publication of the first and second draft National Register of Citizens (NRC) in the north-eastern State of Assam. The tension heightened further when more than 19 lakh people were excluded from the final NRC list. The people of Bangladesh fear that India may drive out hundreds of thousands of these Bengali Muslims and Hindus, most of whose ancestors had settled in Assam during the colonial era, which may trigger another Rohingya-like crisis for the country. South Block repeatedly stated that it is India's internal issue and NRC would not affect its neighbouring country. Bangladesh believed them but now things are changing quickly. India's ruling party leaders have been giving irresponsible hate speeches continuously regarding Bangladesh and according to different media reports hundreds of people are entering the country illegally from India. Besides, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders are also stating publicly that they would send Bengali Muslims to Bangladesh from West Bengal. And they are assuring a section of Bengali Hindus (who went there from Bangladesh, as claimed by them) that they will grant permanent citizenship to them with the help of newly passed Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). Wave of this poisonous mixture of religion and nationalism with politics and sense of division and discrimination will surely affect our religious harmony and threaten national security. Future stability of the region will largely depend on how Bangladesh will deal with this crisis with India in 2020. Apart from the above-mentioned matters, obviously many more new issues will surface and challenge the nation. If the country can predict them early, address them properly and take pro-active measures to resolve them, it will be better for the people of this land.

Print

Vox, "The top UN court ordered Myanmar to protect the Rohingya. An expert explains what it means", 24 January 2020

Available at:

https://www.vox.com/world/2020/1/24/21078774/icj-myanmar-roghingya-genocide-gambia

Vex

The top UN court ordered Myanmar to protect the Rohingya. An expert explains what it means.

This is just the first step in the case brought by the West African nation of Gambia.

By Jen Kirby | jen.kirby@vox.com | Jan 24, 2020, 12:20pm EST



People watch the ICJ hearing at a Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, on January 23, 2020. | Allison Joyce/Getty Images

About 900,000 Rohingya **have fled** from Myanmar to Bangladesh since August 2017, the result of a campaign of violence by the country's security forces against the Muslim minority group. Even before that, the Rohingya faced decades of discrimination and persecution, including being denied **basic citizenship rights**.

Last year, a United Nations fact-finding mission **documented** "consistent patterns of serious human rights violations" by Myanmar's military officials, including mass killings and gruesome sexual violence. The UN report concluded that members of Myanmar's military officials "should be investigated and prosecuted in an international criminal tribunal for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes."

In November, Gambia took action, bringing **a case against Myanmar** in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the Hague for genocide, accusing the country of violating the 1948 Genocide Convention in a systematic campaign of ethnic cleansing.

ICJ decision Q&A: Top UN court ordered Myanmar to protect the Rohingya - Vox

And on Thursday, the West African country got a victory, when the ICJ unanimously ordered Myanmar **must protect the remaining Rohingya** still within its borders, and required the country to report on its progress.

This is not a final verdict, not even close — this is just a provisional decision in a yearslong case. But it's **the first time** an international court has held Myanmar accountable for its campaign against the Rohingya.

Myanmar has denied it committed acts of genocide, though **its own commission** admitted some members of its security forces may have committed war crimes in its so-called counterterrorism campaign against the Rohingya.

Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi, the former political prisoner who won the **Nobel Peace Prize** for her efforts to bring democracy to Myanmar, has conceded "disproportionate force" may have been used, but has framed it as part of a campaign to root out insurgents or terrorists. Aung San Suu Kyi has **insisted that Myanmar** can handle this internally, but she has been roundly criticized for for ignoring the plight of the Rohingya, if not being outright complicit in their oppression.

And it turns out, even with evidence of human rights atrocities, proving a country carried out genocide is a challenging legal task. To better understand this case, why Gambia is pursuing it, and what might happen next, Vox spoke to Michael Becker, an adjunct assistant professor at Trinity College Dublin and former legal officer at the International Court of Justice.

The conversation, edited for length and clarity, is below.

Jen Kirby

So what exactly is the International Court of Justice?

Michael Becker

The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It hears disputes between states. It is different from any of the international courts that are focused on criminal prosecutions — where you have a prosecutor bringing a case against a specific individual. No individuals appear as parties at the ICJ. Every case is between two states. In a way, it's more analogous to a civil suit rather than a criminal case.

Jen Kirby

ICJ decision Q&A: Top UN court ordered Myanmar to protect the Rohingya - Vox

This particular lawsuit was bought by Gambia. And I wonder - why?

Michael Becker

You're absolutely right to notice that because most cases are brought by two states where one is directly affected or injured in some way by what another state is doing. So where two states have a dispute over their boundary or, where one state uses force against another, and one state claims it was unlawful.

But there are certain types of obligations under international law that are considered to be enforceable by everyone, whether or not you are the party that has actually been injured or affected in some way.

And so the **Genocide Convention**, or not engaging in genocide, is considered one of those obligations. It's called an obligation erga omnes — "an obligation owed to everyone." And if it's an obligation owed to everyone, any state can seek to enforce it if it feels it's not being lived up to legally.

That's why Gambia is legally able — or has legal standing, as we would say — to bring this case. Why Gambia in particular? That's a little bit complicated.

Jen Kirby

How so?

Michael Becker

There's the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), which is an international organization made up of Muslim majority countries. Gambia is part of that.

As I understand it, this Organization for Islamic Cooperation was talking about one of their member-states bringing a case for quite a while. The interest there is that the Rohingya are a Muslim minority in a Buddhist state. Gambia ended up being the state that took up that challenge.

But that also has to do with the fact that Gambia's **minister of justice** is a former war crimes prosecutor **at the ad hoc international tribunals in the Hague.** He has personal expertise and interest, and he was able to persuade his government to bring the case.

That's why Gambia: a combination of this obligation erga omnes, which any party to the Genocide Convention can seek to enforce, combined with individuals who felt strongly about wanting to do it.

Jen Kirby

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ICJ decision Q&A: Top UN court ordered Myanmar to protect the Rohingya - Vox

So this decision is not the final verdict in the case — this is just the first step in a very long process. But my sense the court is saying there's evidence there might have been genocide, and Myanmar has to take steps to protect the population. Is that gist of what this decision represents?

Michael Becker

You're absolutely right that this is a long process. An ICJ case will typically take anywhere between three and five years, sometimes longer.

That's obviously a long ways away, and one of the advantages of bringing a case at the International Court of Justice is they do have this power to issue what it calls provisional measures. In US legal language, it's the equivalent of getting a preliminary injunction.

The court hasn't decided anything in today's decision about whether Myanmar has committed genocide. It hasn't decided anything about whether Myanmar has breached its obligations under the Genocide Convention.

What it *has* found is that for the Rohingya population that remains in Myanmar, the situation is serious enough that there is a real risk that acts constituting genocide might take place.

That's the basis for issuing these measures, which are meant to protect the Rohingya in Myanmar from anything that might constitute genocide until the court can rule on the merits questions.

Jen Kirby

It also seems that, as part of this provisional ruling, there was some sort of obligation to preserve evidence? Can you explain what that means in reality?

Michael Becker

Part of proving genocide can involve things like showing that entire villages have been burned down, or trying to figure out how many fatalities there have been, which might involve preserving a mass grave.

The idea here is that Myanmar should not be doing anything to further disturb sites, physical sites where some of the acts alleged by Gambia took place. Myanmar shouldn't be bulldozing over village sites and building on them. If there are mass graves, Myanmar shouldn't be doing anything to conceal those mass graves. It certainly would include — if there are any — relevant government documents. How Gambia is going to get ahold of those documents is quite a different thing.

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This might be an inelegant metaphor, but this ICJ provisional ruling strikes me a bit as telling a murderer to stop killing and also preserve all evidence he's killed in the past. Are there any enforcement mechanisms? What's the incentive for Myanmar to comply with this ruling?

Michael Becker

A few things about that. The main orders imposed here are simply telling Myanmar to comply with obligations it already has. By telling Myanmar to take all measures to prevent genocide against the Rohingya from taking place, the court isn't creating any new obligations for Myanmar. This is what Myanmar is supposed to be doing anyway under the Genocide Convention.

But what's you're saying — how can we really expect a bad actor to clean up his act because you tell them to? — there's some truth to that.

Myanmar has made some important concessions, **as it recently said** gross humanrights abuses against the Rohingya may have taken place and some may have even risen to the level of war crimes. But Myanmar staunchly rejects the idea that any of this could be construed as an intent to destroy the Rohingya population, which is the requirement for genocide. That is difficult to prove. There is a high legal standard to prove genocide.

But the order, in a way, puts Myanmar on notice.

There already is a lot of scrutiny on Myanmar thanks to the work of the **United Nations Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar**, which found that top Myanmar officials should **be investigated** for genocide and human rights atrocities against the Rohingya. That has already put a lot of attention on the situation. This ICJ decision adds to that. It means that anything Myanmar's security forces are doing will be looked at through this additional lens.

The ICJ also imposed a reporting requirement on Myanmar, so Myanmar has to send a report to the court after four months — and then every six months after while the case is pending — to show what steps it has taken to prevent conduct that might constitute genocide.

Gambia may dispute what Myanmar claims it is doing. If the situation is grave enough, if new information comes to light about things are taking place on the ground in Myanmar that threaten the Rohingya, there's nothing to stop Gambia from going back to the ICJ.

Of course, you could say, "Isn't that also more of the same? They weren't that effective first time. What would make them effective the second time?"

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When it comes to international law, enforcement of international court judgments often comes down to the political will of states. This ruling could provide something for states to focus on in their own assessment of what the government of Myanmar is doing, and to help them decide to put further pressure on Myanmar to change its policies or to undertake new efforts in resolving the situation of the Rohingya.

Jen Kirby

But can an ICJ case like this do anything on the ground for the Rohingya in Myanmar?

Michael Becker

There is definitely a risk in people expecting an ICJ case to be the solution to the entire problem.

The ICJ case can play an important role in responding to this particular situation. But it needs — and this is true of many other situations too, that might involve international litigation strategies or international courts — it has to be part of the broader political diplomatic strategy.

Jen Kirby

Since this is the top court of the United Nations, can the court make recommendations for the UN Security Council or other UN bodies to step in?

Michael Becker

The ICJ not going to impose orders or direct anyone to do anything that isn't a party before it. So the ICJ would never even recommend action to the UN Security Council in a dispute between two states.

But can the UN do anything? Well, yes. The UN can always do something — if there's political will. The remit of the UN Security Council is to deal with the maintenance of international peace and security or to respond to threats to international peace and security. At this point in history, that definition is extremely broad. So if the UN Security Council wanted to take action with regard to Myanmar or the Rohingya, they could.

Politically speaking, that's extremely unlikely. Particularly because of the relationship between China and Myanmar. As you know, China can obviously veto Security Council resolutions.

Jen Kirby

That makes sense — the realities of politics often get in the way of political will.

Michael Becker

ICJ decision Q&A: Top UN court ordered Myanmar to protect the Rohingya - Vox

One really interesting thing about the decision today was that it was unanimous, which is fairly unusual.

In the ICJ, if a state doesn't have a judge on the court from the country, it's allowed to appoint a judge for that case. Normally, there are 15 sitting judges on the court, but in this case, there are 17, because Gambia appointed a judge and Myanmar appointed a judge.

Judges on the court are independent actors, but it's not surprising when these appointed judges side with the country that appointed them. They don't always, but it's certainly not surprising when they do.

But here we have a unanimous decision. Even the judge appointed by Myanmar found that the requirements for provisional measures were satisfied and that the situation posed a serious-enough risk of possible genocide to issue the measures.

Jen Kirby

It sounds then like the bar for this provisional decision is much lower than for the final ruling.

Michael Becker

It's much lower because the provisional measures are meant to address or prevent the potential loss of human life while the case is still being decided. The court does have a much more relaxed standard about what evidence it's going to credit.

The court cited the UN fact-finding mission report quite a lot in these provisional measures to establish there's a real risk to human life right now. But those fact-finding reports are going to get a lot more scrutiny in the next phase. The court will have to do a much more rigorous assessment of all of the evidence at that stage.

So it's really quite important to say that there is a more relaxed or forgiving standard when it comes to provisional measures. You can't necessarily read that much into what the court has said here when it comes to how it might act on the merits.

Jen Kirby

So in terms of where we move from here, you mentioned that there will be a reporting requirement from Myanmar moving forward. Does Gambia get to investigate this case in the same way you would in a civil suit — like, depose witnesses? Or does the ICJ do this? How does this all play out?

Michael Becker

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That's a real tricky issue. The procedures for handling or gathering evidence at the end of the international level are not nearly as well developed as they are in most domestic legal systems.

Gambia requested — which the court actually rejected — a measure that would have required Myanmar to allow UN investigators into Myanmar. So far all of these UN fact-finding reports have been based on work that has been done outside of Myanmar, such as extensive interviewing of the Rohingya who've had to flee to Bangladesh and elsewhere. They haven't gotten into Myanmar because Myanmar won't allow them in.

But since the ICJ rejected Gambia's request, it leaves the fact-finding situation in a little bit of flux.

Gambia is relying on all of this evidence that the UN has gathered, that NGOs have gathered, that journalists have gathered. But Gambia can decide if it wants to ask the courts to authorize some kind of investigation of its own. I think that's unlikely, but they might want to press it.

But there isn't any equivalent to deposing witnesses or anything like that. And so this is something that the International Court of Justice and some other international courts have been criticized for — for not having evidentiary practices that can really do justice to some of the claims that they have to decide.

I don't know what Gambia is going to do now. It may come down on them continuing to rely on the very solid fact-finding work the UN investigators have already done. I've suggested that either the parties or the court itself might want to consider calling as witnesses the people involved in putting together the UN report. They should be subject to questioning and cross-examination at the ICJ.

Jen Kirby

If Gambia succeeds in making this difficult case, what would happen?

Michael Becker

The standard for proving genocide is quite high, and very challenging to meet, even in the face of abundant evidence of mass atrocity. That's not enough. That alone is not enough to meet the strict legal definition of genocide.

If Gambia succeeded, there's a separate question about what kind of relief it would be able to ask for. That's all over the map. One focus might be on financial compensation.

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There are bigger questions, too, about whether the court is in a position to compel Myanmar to change its citizenship laws, for example. The Rohingya have essentially been made stateless by being denied the right of citizenship, which has contributed to making their existence so precarious.

Those questions are years away, but they raise a lot of challenging and interesting legal questions about what type of relief might be available — and how likely would it be that relief could ultimately be implemented.

Jen Kirby

Myanmar also established an Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) to investigate atrocities against the Rohingya, and this week the commission said there was evidence of human-rights violation, even war crimes, but no genocide. How big a deal is that? Or was this an attempt to basically get out in front of this ICJ decision?

Michael Becker

The commission of inquiry that Myanmar set up has been widely criticized because of the personnel involved. It looks very close to the government. It looks like it fails basic requirements to establish a baseline of independence and impartiality.

It's very tempting to just criticize the commission on those grounds and say it's a complete whitewash. I'm sympathetic to that, but I've tried to make the argument that even if that's the case, it's important to respond to its assertions and findings in a forensic way.

But, in a way, Myanmar also seems to be appealing to the international community to say, look, "We are taking it seriously. So back off." There's a strategic rationale for why they may be willing to admit to what are very serious transgressions. This is part of the overall narrative of Myanmar's government, which is to say it's dealing with an internal armed conflict. This is about counterterrorism; it's not the government's plan to wipe out the Rohingya. This is about military or security forces engaged in counterterrorism getting out of hand.

I think they will try to use that to undermine the claim that there's genocidal intent. It's quite a cynical argument: We engaged in war crimes, so it can't possibly be genocide.

Jen Kirby

Sort of like "mistakes were made."

Michael Becker

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This is the problem with the court's test. The ICJ has said if you are inferring genocidal intent, that has to be the only inference you can draw from the evidence.

If you can draw other inferences from the evidence — such as the possibility of counterterrorism run amok — that can defeat a genocide claim. That's why genocide is so hard to prove.

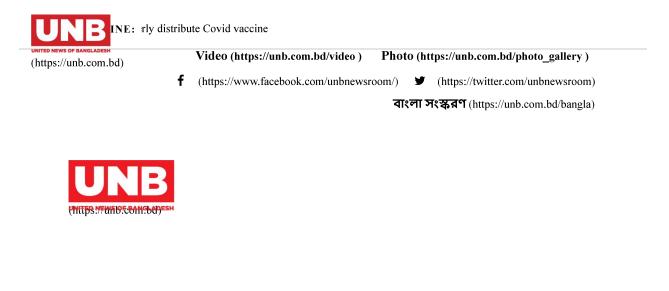
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United News of Bangladesh (Bangladesh), "ICJ case against Myanmar: OIC to convene pledging conference", 11 February 2020

Available at:

https://unb.com.bd/category/bangladesh/icj-case-against-myanmar-oic-to-convene-pledgingconference/43943



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ICJ case against Myanmar: OIC to convene pledging conference

Image: Image:



The Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has agreed to convene a pledging conference, during the upcoming Council of Foreign Ministers meeting to be held in Niger on April 3-4, to mobilize resources for the ICJ case against Myanmar on accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingyas.

The agreement was reached on Tuesday during the Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) preparatory to the upcoming 47th Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) meeting to be held in Niamey, Niger.

Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen led the Bangladesh delegation at the OIC Senior Officials Meeting held at the OIC General Secretariat in Jeddah on February 9-11, said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The SOM welcomed the historic unanimous decision on 23 January 2020 of the International Court of Justice ordering Provisional Measures to prevent further acts of genocide against the Rohingyas in Myanmar, which sets a historical precedence in legal efforts in upholding the rights of persecuted minorities anywhere in the world.



The OIC delegates also agreed to Bangladesh proposals for continued support to the Gambia in the case at ICJ until a final verdict is issued, follow up on the ICJ's notification of its order of provisional measures to the UN Security Council pursuant to Article 41(2) of the Statute of ICJ and to contribute in the resources mobilization efforts to ensure safe, dignified and sustained return and resettlement of the Rohingyas to their legitimate homeland in the Rakhine State of Myanmar.

The OIC General Secretariat has set up a dedicated Account to facilitate the resource mobilization efforts.

The 45th OIC CFM held in Dhaka established an OIC Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingyas, with The Gambia as Chair, with a view to mobilize and coordinate international political support, particularly through the 57-member OIC process.

Following a submission by The Gambia, on behalf of OIC, the ICJ held its first hearing on 10-12 December 2019 in the case against the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for its gross violation of human rights against the Rohingyas.

On the sidelines of the SOM, Foreign Secretary Momen held a meeting with the members of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Accountability for Human Rights Violations Against the Rohingya.

Bangladesh Foreign Secretary appreciated the Gambian Delegation for their dedication to the Rohingya cause in lodging the case with the ICJ.



He sought continued support from all members of the Committee for mobilising resources, including political support, to ensure early repatriation and resettlement of the Rohingya in their homeland in Rakhine state of Myanmar.

The SOM congratulated Bangladesh for hosting the upcoming 2nd Brainstorming Session to be held in Dhaka on 10-20 February 2020 on the Comprehensive Reform of OIC.

In this regard the meeting also finalised a draft Resolution outlining the follow up mechanism for the outcome of the Brainstorming Session.

The SOM further discussed on draft resolutions on issues concerning the Middle East peace process in the wake of US 'Deal of the Century', status of Muslim communities and minorities in the non-OIC member states, combating international terrorism, Cairo Declaration of Human Rights, Makkah Document on 'The Values of Moderation and Middle Stance in the Holy Quran and the Sunnah', humanitarian, legal/statutory and administrative/financial affairs.

Draft resolutions finalized at the SOM will be finally adopted during the CFM to be held in Niger in April.

Arab News (Saudi Arabia), "OIC contact group discusses Rohingya protection with UN chief", 1 March 2020

Available at:

https://www.arabnews.com/node/1635141/world

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OIC contact group discusses Rohingya protection with UN chief



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OIC contact group discusses Rohingya protection with UN chief | Arab News

- Saudi envoy to UN stresses need to exert additional international efforts to prevent Myanmar from continuing violations
- UN chief Guterres welcomed the ICJ decision on Rohingyas as a historical moment that the government of Myanmar should respect

Updated 01 March 2020 SPA March 01, 2020 02:57		
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NEW YORK: The contact group of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), led by Saudi Arabia, met with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres at his office at the UN's New York headquarters to discuss the latest developments related to the Muslim Rohingya ethnic minority community in Myanmar.

The group included representatives from Turkey, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia and the OIC Observer Mission to the UN.

The Kingdom's permanent representative to the UN, Abdallah Al-Mouallimi, lauded the efforts of Guterres to support the legitimate rights of the Rohingya, highlighting the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) decision demanding the government of Myanmar honor its obligations to provide protection to the group.

"The ICJ decision was the result of the efforts exerted by the OIC members states in New York and the Contact Group on Rohingya Muslims of Myanmar headed by the Kingdom," he said.

"Their efforts culminated in the adoption of the General Assembly resolution titled 'Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar,' which was proposed by the Kingdom to protect the Rohingya people and grant them full citizenship rights. This decision was used by Gambia to bring the case to the ICJ."

Al-Mouallimi stressed the importance of exerting additional international efforts in light of the ICJ's decision to pressure the government of Myanmar and prevent it from continuing violations, hoping that Guterres would continue to urge the Security Council to take practical steps to alleviate the Rohingya people's suffering.

Guterres welcomed the ICJ decision and described it as a historical moment that the government of Myanmar should respect.

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OIC contact group discusses Rohingya protection with UN chief | Arab News
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"There is a consensus regarding the Rohingya issue and the violations and displacement they are facing. I will continue to bring this issue up before the Security Council," he said.

Saudi envoy to UN stresses need to exert additional international efforts to prevent Myanmar from continuing violations

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https://www.equaltimes.org/gambia-s-genocide-case-against#.X8TZ1s5xeUk

Gambia's genocide case against Myanmar shows that smaller countries can also help balance the scales of international justice



Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou speaks to reporters outside the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, on 23 January 2020, after the court ordered Myanmar to take emergency measures to prevent genocide against the Rohingya.

(AP/Peter Dejong)

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<u>mean</u>) earlier this year by the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which ordered the government to take immediate measures to prevent further acts of genocide.

The fact that the complainant was Gambia, mainland Africa's smallest country, 11,000 kilometres away on the western Atlantic coast, has set an important precedent for south-south solidarity against human rights violations.

"The ICJ ruling sends a very strong message that even small countries can use international instruments as leverage to promote human rights, not only in the continent but globally," says Dr Ismaila Ceesay, senior lecturer in political science at the University of the Gambia.

The 'Gambia v Myanmar' case marks the first time that a country without any direct connection to the alleged crimes has used the fact that it is party to the Genocide Convention to bring a case before the United Nations' top court in The Hague. Until that point, international sanctions had so far failed to deter Myanmar's Buddhist-majority army (known as the Tatmadaw) from <u>waging ethnic cleansing campaigns</u> (<u>https://www.equaltimes.org/will-anything-stop-the-ongoing#.XnuPbW52s2x)</u> against the Muslim-minority Rohingyas in Rakhine State.

In 2017, thousands of Rohingyas were killed, subjected to widespread rape and the destruction of villages. Nearly a million have since fled to <u>refugee camps in neighbouring Bangladesh</u> (<u>https://www.equaltimes.org/the-secret-gardens-of-rohingya#.XnuQs252s2x</u>).

A UN report concluded last year that the targeted and widespread violence against the Rohingyas constituted <u>"acts of genocide"</u> (https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx? <u>NewsID=24991&LangID=E</u>) and that the Myanmar government bore "state responsibility".

It also warned that the half a million Rohingyas remaining in Myanmar still "face systematic persecution and live under the threat of genocide". Myanmar's government, headed by Aung San Suu Kyi, <u>continues to deny these findings</u>

(https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/08/myanmar-rejects-findings-rohingya-genocidereport-180829070211806.html).

It will be some years before the ICJ makes a final ruling on Gambia's genocide allegation. However, in the interim it has ordered Myanmar's government to take emergency measures to protect the Rohingya and report to the ICJ on a six-monthly basis on its related actions. The first report is due at the end of May.

Rohingya activists welcomed the development as a significant step forward. Speaking to *Equal Times* in response to the ICJ ruling, Tun Khin, president of the Burma Rohingya Organisation UK (BROUK), says: "For many decades we have been facing genocide, many media have been

covering what is happening to our people, but the international community has not been putting enough pressure on Myanmar.

"This one little country has had a huge impact. This is very encouraging, giving motivation to the victims," says Tun Khin, who lives in exile in the UK.

Fatou Jagne, west Africa director of the human rights NGO Article 19, believes the intervention is a game-changer: "It's a bold step. It changes the whole narrative that generally states will complain, but politically it's very difficult for a state to hold another state to account.

"It's unprecedented because it reveals that we should not close our eyes when things are happening and say: 'We cannot do anything, it's happening far away,'" adds the Gambian human rights campaigner.

An unlikely intervention

Gambia's unlikely intervention came about through a series of circumstances. The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) had been looking for a way to stand up for the Rohingyas and sponsored Gambia out of its 57 members to lead on the case. "Gambia was seen as the right country to do it. It was important that it was a democratic country with relatively clean hands," says Reed Brody, legal counsel for Human Rights Watch.

Gambia's Attorney General Abubacarr Tambadou, who spent more than a decade prosecuting cases from Rwanda's 1994 genocide, had already expressed a personal commitment to the case.

Tambadou, who is also the justice minister, visited Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, <u>as part of an OIC delegation in 2018 (https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-myanmar-</u> <u>rohingya-world-court-gambia/with-memories-of-rwanda-the-gambian-minister-taking-on-</u> <u>suu-kyi-idUKKBN1Y91HR)</u>.

"He saw very similar patterns [to Rwanda] with what was happening in Myanmar and decided he was going to take this up," says Brody, who is working with victims of Gambia's former regime to bring ex-dictator Yahya Jammeh to justice.

It is also symbolic that Gambia is itself going through <u>a</u> <u>transitional justice process</u> (<u>https://www.equaltimes.org/gambia-jammeh-s-victimsbegin-the#.XnuRLG52s2x</u>) to create a historical record of human rights abuses perpetrated during Jammeh's 22-year regime, which ended with his exile to Equatorial Guinea in January 2017.

Since January 2019, the national Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) has been hearing harrowing cases of widespread forced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, torture and sexual violence.

"We have this slogan 'Never Again', so using Gambia to set an example to show the world that we are moving again from dictatorship and human rights violations to promoting human rights, not only here, but outside of the country, I think that's symbolic on the part of the OIC and the Gambia," says Ceesay. He adds that south-south cooperation also benefits from "perceived legitimacy" in comparison to intervention by Western nations that can be viewed as having an agenda.

Jagne believes that a "collective experience of oppression" also contributed to public support to take up the fight on behalf of the Rohingya. During the Jammeh regime, international intervention was limited.

"For 22 years people were sympathising with us, other countries received refugees and hosted discussions to get Gambians to mobilise, but there were important times when I think if we had had countries who seized a human rights body to say 'what is happening in the Gambia is of concern to us' that could have triggered some action," says Jagne, who has assisted the cases of many victims who fled over the border to exile in Senegal, where she is based.

International and regional help did come in the end, when Jammeh refused to step down after he was defeated by Adama Barrow in the December 2016 national election. Regional bloc ECOWAS was instrumental in negotiating Jammeh's ultimately peaceful departure. This intervention was supported by a multi-national peacekeeping force – ECOMIG – which remained in place to provide stability during the first three years of Gambia's political transition to democracy.

"People helped us in the end. If we were left on our own, we would have faced a very challenging situation. I believe this is still something people remember and why there was public support when the Myanmar case came up," adds Jagne.

A PR strategy?

However, the country's democratic transition is not without its controversies and some victims of the former regime feel the government's case against Myanmar is hypocritical.

There is a growing feeling among victims and their families who are impatient for justice that the truth commission process is leaning too far towards reconciliation. Tensions among victims heightened last year when justice minister Tambadou agreed to release four Junglers – Jammeh's paramilitary hit squad who killed and tortured on his orders – in return for their

testifying at the TRRC. The commission will make recommendations for prosecution at the end of the two-year hearings, but victims saw Tambadou's deal as <u>a grave betrayal</u> (https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2019/09/23/trrc-Gambia-truthcommission-rights).

"We cannot deny the atrocities happening in Myanmar and the need to put an end to them as soon as possible, however, many victims and civil society actors cannot help but feel like it is a PR strategy by the government and the minister of justice, who depend on international donors," says Nana-Jo Ndow, director of ANEKED, an organisation for the victims of forced disappearances under the Jammeh regime.

Tambadou has stated the country does not currently have the capacity to try the Junglers, but Ndow argues: "The government, with political will, filed a complaint against Myanmar at the ICJ. It can do the same in Gambia for perpetrators of human rights violations."

Meanwhile in Myanmar, the situation for Rohingyas is getting worse since the provisional measures were enforced, reports Tun Khin, speaking in March after a recent trip to Bangladesh to meet with refugees.

Civilians are caught up in <u>ongoing outbreaks of violence in Rakhine State</u> (<u>https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/fighting-rakhine-chin-states-rages-myanmar-limits-internet-200304033937563.html</u>) between the separatist Arakan Army and the Tatmadaw. "At least 20 Rohingyas have been killed under the pretext that the military are fighting the Arakan Army. Rohingyas are being arrested when they try to leave Arakan (Rakhine) State. They are denied access to medical care and livelihoods," he says.

So far, the government does not appear to be upholding the ICJ ruling, he adds. "We are all really glad to have the provisional measures. But to get stronger justice we need the international community, especially the big countries, to come up and support Gambia," says Tun Khin.

Tun Khin reiterated growing international calls for the UN Security Council to refer Myanmar to the International Criminal Court (ICC). Last month the UN's special rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, also urged the UN Security Council to establish an international tribunal to <u>"adjudicate the crimes against humanity"</u> (<u>https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059181</u>)</u>, saying it was no longer enough for the international community to simply monitor grave abuses happening there.

Other countries, spurred by Gambia's intervention, have joined the fight against the persecution of the Rohingya in Myanmar, including the Netherlands, Canada, the Maldives and Germany. Tun Khin, on behalf of BROUK, has also filed a complaint against Myanmar in Argentina.

At a time when wealthier nations appear to be taking less responsibility for intervening against human rights abuses by other nations, there is a growing need for similar interventions of solidarity, believes Brody.

"We live in an age of impunity. Governments today, in general, do not face the kinds of costs for atrocities that they did 20 years ago. That is because the bigger countries that traditionally enforced international norms are just not doing that job anymore. Increasingly, it's going to be individual countries or smaller countries that do that," he says.



Equal Times is a trilingual news and opinion website focusing on labour, human rights, culture, development, the environment, politics and the economy from a social justice perspective.

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New Straits Times (Malaysia), "NST Leader: Hallmarks of genocide", 12 September 2020

Available at:

https://www.nst.com.my/opinion/leaders/2020/09/624031/nst-leader-hallmarks-genocide

1/9/2021

Annex 166 NST Leader: Hallmarks of genocide

NST Leader: Hallmarks of genocide

September 12, 2020 @ 6:15pm



De facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi may have much to explain to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague where in December she denied the regime's role in the genocide of the Rohingyas in a case brought by The Gambia on behalf of the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, claiming fabrication of evidence by Rohingya victims. - AFP file pic

THE Rohingya, the world's most persecuted people, may finally get justice.

Two low-ranking soldiers of Myanmar's Tatmadaw, as the army there is called, have gone public, confessing to their participation in the massacre of the Rohingya ordered by the military regime.

The New York Times, which has sighted the video testimony and verified some evidence on the ground, quotes them as being ordered by their superiors to "kill all you see". Other evidence is emerging.

"They may have been directly responsible for killing 180 Rohingya", Fortify Rights, a human rights non-governmental organisation which has possession of a copy of the footage, told The Economist, the English newspaper.

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Annex 166 NST Leader: Hallmarks of genocide

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They speak of burning down villages, raping women, murdering and burying them in mass graves. This may be the most damning evidence yet against the genocidal military regime.

De facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi may have much to explain to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague where in December she denied the regime's role in the genocide of the Rohingyas in a case brought by The Gambia on behalf of the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, claiming fabrication of evidence by Rohingya victims.

Now, two perpetrators are corroborating the evidence of victims. This doesn't speak well for a Nobel Peace laureate who has been on the international circuit denying genocide charges levelled against the military regime.

One moment she is a laureate for peace and another moment she is an advocate for violence. And that, too, against the defenceless.

The bad news for Suu Kyi and the military regime is that the two soldiers' testimony will lend weight to the Gambian case at the ICJ where Myanmar stands accused of destroying the Rohingya as an ethnic group.

The Netherlands and Canada have recently come forward to lend legal support in the OIC's attempt to hold Myanmar accountable for genocide.

Other countries must do the same. Impunity must be put to an immediate end. A million Rohingya refugees have fled to Bangladesh where they live in misery, but at least they can entertain the hope of seeing another dawn.

In Myanmar, dusks don't always give birth to dawns. Death is just a door knock away. Now that the genocidal intent of the regime is out in the open, the Tatmadaw may just knock on the doors of the 600,000 Rohingya who are still in the country.

The international community must reach them before the Tatmadaw does. Myanmar's military regime is known for burying evidence.

And what they can't bury, they burn. Now that the International Criminal Court is holding the two soldiers in custody in The Hague, it should act fast.

The international legal process often ambles when it should run. Hundreds, if not hundreds of thousands, murders can be committed between an amble and a run.

Humanity must thank Bangladesh, where they fled to last month, for making the custody of the pair of soldiers possible. It must not stop there. Nations like Bangladesh, which is shouldering more than its fair share of its burden, need support.

Hosting a million or more refugees is a drain on a nation with limited resources and space. There is one of two things that the community of nations must do.

Either hold genocidal nations like Myanmar accountable for crimes against humanity. Or better still, prevent them from happening.

Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) (Bangladesh), "Bangladesh disburses USD 500,000 to OIC over Rohingya genocide case", 28 November 2020

Available at:

https://www.bssnews.net/?p=491620

Bangladesh disburses US\$500,000 to OIC over Rohingya genocide case | Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)

Bangladesh disburses US\$500,000 to OIC over Rohingya genocide case

By Tanzim Anwar from Niger

NIAMEY, Niger, Nov 28, 2020 (BSS) – Bangladesh has disbursed US\$ 5 lakh to OIC as foreign ministers of the 57-nation grouping in their ongoing meeting initiated a fund raising campaign for its West African member Gambia's legal battle against Myanmar over Rohingya genocide in International Court of Justice (ICJ).

"We have already disbursed the fund to the OIC for supporting Gambia in its legal battle," said Bangladesh's Permanent Representative to Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Dr Mohammad Javed Patwary, who simultaneously serves as the ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Patwary, who leads Dhaka at OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) in Niger, told BSS that the OIC General Secretariat by now opened a dedicated account for Gambia's battle at ICJ while the West African nation also signaled urgent need for the fund.

"I call for urgent, voluntary and substantial contribution of the (OIC) member states for the legal case," Gambia's Justice Minister Dawda A Jallow while presenting latest update of the Rohingy case at the CFM, where the Rohingya crisis appeared to be the key agenda.

He said Gambia needed approximately US\$5 million to pay particularly the lawyers to run the case while it by now hired a reputed US-based law firm to stand by the prosecution side in the case.

But Jallow said "unfortunately" the law firm was yet to receive any significant payment for the legal services it rendered since September 2019 as "it is only this month that a sum of US\$300,000 was paid to the law firm, which is less than 10 percent of the amount owed them".

The Gambian minister said the case was aimed to seek a conclusive and lasting solution to the Rohingya crisis and cautioned that all potential OIC interventions to ICJ regarding Rohingya cause should be conducted in coordination with his country for the sake of the cause.

He warned that any uncoordinated OIC intervention could affect the case and "seriously complicate matters".

OIC General Secretariat officials said apart from Dhaka, out of the 57 members Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Nigeria by now provided financial support to Gambia over the ICJ case involving Myanmar's Muslim minority Rohinyas, over a million of whom were forced to take refuge in Bangladesh to evade the genocide.

Dr A K Abdul Momen

Foreign minister Dr AK Abdul Momen was scheduled to lead the Bangladesh delegation to OIC's two-day crucial 47th

Annex 167 Bangladesh disburses US\$500,000 to OIC over Rohingya genocide case | Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)

1/3/2021

CFM session that began on Friday but COVID-19 detection at the last minute forced him to scrap his scheduled Niger visit.

The crisis turned Bangladesh to be the abode of world's single largest community of forcibly displaced people.

Over 1.1 million Rohingyas fled their homeland in Myanmar's Rakhine state to take shelter in Bangladesh's bordering Cox's Bazar district and most of them arrived there since August 25, 2017 after the Buddhist majority East Asian country launched a ruthless military crackdown.

In November last year, Gambia had brought the case against Myanmar to the ICJ with the backing of OIC, Canada and the Netherlands while ICJ held its first hearing on December 10-12.

On January 23 last the ICJ made the historic unanimous decision ordering provisional measures to prevent further acts of genocide against the Rohingyas in Myanmar.

Bangladesh foreign minister Dr AK Abdul Momen earlier this week told BSS in Dhaka that this CMF would add afresh pressure on Myanmar in the "accountability and justice front" and to take back their nationals from Bangladesh.

"The OIC took the Rohingya issue seriously . . . all the OIC members have been supporting us strongly over the issue in the United Nations," he said.

Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) (Bangladesh), "OIC draws US\$ 1.2 million for Gambia to run Rohingya genocide case", 6 December 2020

Available at:

http://www.bssnews.net/?p=495599

OIC draws US\$ 1.2m for Gambia to run Rohingya genocide case



By Tanzim Anwar back from Niger

DHAKA, Dec 6, 2020 (BSS) – An OIC fund raising campaign for The Gambia to support its legal battle seeking redressal of Rohingya genocide in International Court of Justice (ICJ) drew so far US\$1.2 million while the West African nation said it urgently needed \$5million to pay the lawyers.

Officials at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the grouping of 57 countries having large Muslim populations, General Secretariat said Bangladesh appeared to be the largest contributor to the fund donating half a million dollar of the US\$ \$1.2 million.

They said Saudi Arabia disbursed US\$300,000, Turkey, Nigeria and Malaysia each deposited \$100,000 while the remaining \$100,000 came from Islamic Solidarity Fund, a special OIC fund.

The Gambia, on the other hand, said it immediately needed \$5 million to pay a Washington-based law firm, which it engaged in the ICJ to fight the battle.

"We need \$5 million right now to pay our international lawyers and support staffs," Gambia's Justice Minister Dawda A Jallow told BSS's diplomatic correspondent Tanzim Anwar in interview on the sidelines of a OIC foreign ministers conference (CFM) last week in Niger.

He added that The Gambia actually was under "intense pressure" over the payment issue from the international lawyers group prosecuting the case in the ICJ.

Jallow estimated that the eventual cost to run the legal battle was likely to be over \$10 million until getting the final verdict at ICJ.

The Gambia appointed a team of international lawyers of "Foley Hoag Legal Firm of Washington D.C alongside a group of Gambian legal experts headed by himself.

The CFM meeting witnessed both Gambia and Bangladesh making a strong plea to rally fellow OIC states financial support for the case while the general secretariat of the grouping opened a special account to receive contributions.

1065

1/3/2021

Annex 168

OIC draws US\$ 1.2m for Gambia to run Rohingya genocide case | Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)

OIC Secretary general Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen told the CFM that Rohingyas were kicked out by their 'own country' and 'denied all human rights'.

Asked by the BSS correspondent at a post-CMF press conference what was OIC step to mobilise the fund for the genocide case the OIC secretary general said he urged all member states to donate more fund.

"It's an (ethnic) cleansing . . . (it) is something unimaginable in this 21st century," he said referring to the atrocities against Rohingyas.

Bangladesh currently hosts over 1.1 million forcefully displaced Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar district that borders Myanmar's Rakhine state, their homeland which these forcibly displaced people fled since August 25, 2017 after the Buddhist-majority country's military launched against them a ruthless crackdown.

In November last year, being backed by the OIC Gambia filed the case in ICJ accuse Myanmar of spearheading the genocide while Canada and the Netherlands stood by the West African nation at the court.

The ICJ in The Hague on January 23 under unanimous decision ordered provisional measures to prevent further acts of genocide against the Rohingyas in Myanmar as the case was underway.

As its subsequent measures The Gambia submitted to the ICJ over 500 pages of legal and factual argumentation, supported by over 5,000 pages of annexed evidentiary materials as well as several video files, satellite imagery, maps and figures.

The Gambian justice minister told BSS that his country gathered evidence from Tweeter and Facebook as part of its efforts to gather proof to support the case through two lawsuits in US courts.

Myanmar authorities were carrying out a hate campaign against Rohingyas using the social media.

"All this work has led to the accumulation of legal fees of over US\$ 5 million, Unfortunately, the law firm is yet to receive any significant payment for services they rendered since September 2019," Jallow said.

The Gambian minister said his country so far managed to pay the firm only US\$ 300,000, an amount which is less than 10 percent of the bill.

A Bangladesh foreign ministry official familiar with the OIC affairs, meanwhile, said Dhaka planned to take an extra initiative to raise fund for Gambia through knocking all OIC member states one to one.

In a recent interview with BSS, Commonwealth secretary general Patricia Scotland said her office was reviewing possibilities of forming a "large pool of lawyers" drawn from the grouping's member states to support The Gambia in fighting the case in ICJ.

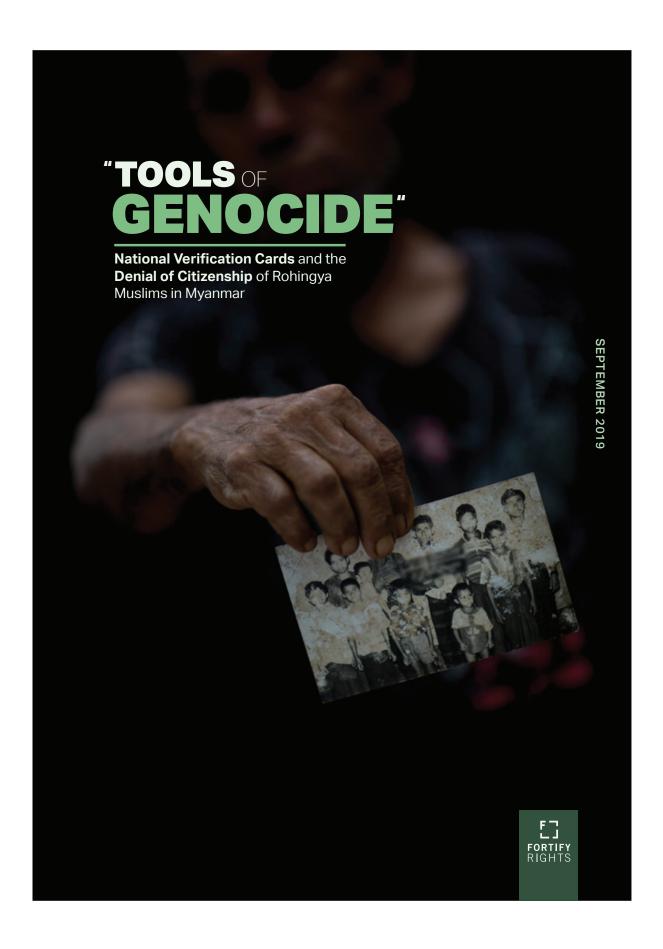
Earlier, foreign minister Dr AK Abdul Momen urged at different global multilateral platforms to create a 'Friends of the Gambia group' for promoting to make accountable the persons responsible for the atrocities.

PUBLICATIONS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Fortify Rights, "Tools of Genocide": National Verification Cards and the Denial of Citizenship of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar, September 2019 [extract]

Available at:

https://www.fortifyrights.org/downloads/Tools%20of%20Genocide%20-%20Fortify%20Rights%20-%20September-03-2019-EN.pdf



crime of deportation of members of the Rohingya people, despite the fact that Myanmar is not a State party to the Rome Statute.³⁰⁶ The Prosecutor argued that because an element of the crime of deportation the crossing of a border occurred on the territory of Bangladesh, a State Party to the Rome Statute, the Court has jurisdiction.³⁰⁷ The Court agreed and further held that the Court may also exercise its jurisdiction with regard to "other crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court," such as the crimes against humanity of persecution and other inhumane acts against the Rohingya.³⁰⁸

The violations documented in this report associated with the NVC process and the denial of citizenship are, therefore, within the jurisdiction of the Court to consider in its investigation into potential crimes committed against the Rohingya in Myanmar, as they involve both the deportation of the Rohingya and other acts constituting persecution.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), through the Government of the Gambia, intends to bring a case regarding the crime of genocide against Rohingya to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), providing another opportunity to conduct investigations into these violations.²⁰⁹

Evidence documented in this report raises important questions as to whether violations with regards to the NVC process and the 1982 Citizenship Law caused serious mental harm to Rohingya and/or deliberately inflicted on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part. Furthermore, evidence in this report raises important questions as to whether the Government of Myanmar used the NVC process as a coercive measure to forcibly deport Rohingya and single them out on discriminatory grounds.

Given the close links between deadly Myanmar Army led attacks against Rohingya and the NVC process and the denial of citizenship, the violations documented in this report bolster the findings already made by the FFM and Fortify Rights regarding genocide and crimes against humanity. As such, this chapter discusses the violations in terms of these frameworks, highlighting the need for further attention.

Genocide

In accordance with Article 6 of the Rome Statute, the crime of genocide requires: (1) the commission of one of five prohibited criminal acts enumerated by the Statute (2) against a protected national, ethnic, racial, or religious group (3) with the intent to destroy the group in whole or part.³¹⁰ For the purposes of establishing the crime of genocide, the Rohingya are considered a distinct ethnic group, and the Myanmar state security forces and non Rohingya citizens have been found to hold the requisite intent to destroy the Rohingya in whole or in part.³¹¹ Evidence documented in this

- 309 "A oc es o Roh gyas OIC fo Su g Mya a a ICJ " *The Jakarta Post* Ju e 4 2019 h ps //www he aka apos co /seas a/2019/06/04/a oc es o oh gyas oc fo su g ya a a c h l (accessed Augus 23 2019) O ga za o of Isla c Coope a o Resolu o s o Musl Co u es a d Musl M o es he No OIC Me be S a es adop ed by he 46 h sess o of he Cou c l of Fo e g M s e s Ma ch 1 2 2019 Doc No OIC/CFM 46/2019/MM/RES/FINAL h ps //www o c oc o g/docdow /?docID=4447& efID=1250 (accessed Augus 26 2019)
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³⁰⁶ ICC "Prosecution's Request for a Ruling on Jurisdiction under Article 19(3) of the Statute" Ap l 9 2018 pa a 28

³⁰⁷ Ibid.

³⁰⁸ ICC Decision on the "Prosecution's Request for a Ruling " pa a 74

International Crisis Group, "Myanmar at the International Court of Justice", 10 December 2019

Available at:

1/3/2021

Annex 170 Myanmar at the International Court of Justice | Crisis Group



Q&A / ASIA 10 DECEMBER 2019

Myanmar at the International Court of Justice

On 10 December, the International Court of Justice convened to hear an opening request in a genocide case filed against Myanmar for its atrocities against Rohingya Muslims. In this Q&A, Crisis Group expert Richard Horsey looks at the legal and diplomatic stakes of these proceedings.





Richard Horsey Senior Adviser, Myanmar Y rshorsey

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Why is Myanmar before the International Court of Justice?

The Gambia has lodged a case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal UN judicial body based in The Hague, alleging violations of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (usually known as the Genocide Convention) in Myanmar's treatment of ethnic Rohingya Muslims. The charges stem from atrocities committed by Myanmar's security forces in northern Rakhine State, which have forced over 700,000 Rohingva to flee to Bangladesh since August 2017. The Gambia, relying on the Convention's provision that the ICJ can adjudicate disputes over such charges, brought this case on behalf of the 57-member Organisation of Islamic Cooperation. The allegations against Myanmar

Annex 170 Myanmar at the International Court of Justice | Crisis Group include responsibility for genocidal acts against the Rohingya and failure to prevent and punish

the Rohingya and failure to prevent and punish genocide, among others.

The Gambia has also asked the ICJ to order "provisional measures", the equivalent of an injunction in domestic law, authorising steps to protect the parties' rights pending the case's final adjudication. Hearings at the court from 10-12 December – at which Aung San Suu Kyi will represent Myanmar – are dealing with this request for provisional measures. Both The Gambia and Myanmar have retained top international lawyers as counsel.

" The allegations against Myanmar include responsibility for genocidal acts against the Rohingya and failure to prevent and punish genocide, among others. "



Two other countries – the Netherlands and Canada – have indicated that they will support The Gambia's case. They have called on all state parties to the Genocide Convention to do the same. One possibility is that the Netherlands and Canada will become "intervening states", a status that would give them access to court documents and the right to participate in oral proceedings, without being formal parties to the dispute.

A decision on provisional measures is expected within weeks. But the case itself will probably be long and convoluted, with the court taking years to render its final decision. The diplomatic and reputational impact is thus likely to be most immediate and consequential.

Why is Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's top civilian leader, speaking at the ICJ hearing this week and what does she hope to achieve?

In addition to a legal team, states involved in ICJ cases must nominate an "agent" empowered to represent the state and make commitments on its behalf. Aung San Suu Kyi is Myanmar's agent, in her capacity as foreign minister (she also holds the title of state counsellor). A justice minister or an attorney general normally plays this role; it is extremely rare for a political figure of her prominence to do so. Aung San Suu Kyi

Myanmar at the International Court of Justice | Crisis Group

likely feels that as the country's de facto leader she has the primary responsibility to respond to The Gambia's claims, and also that she is the person best qualified to do so – given her fluent English and experience on the world stage.

Aung San Suu Kyi's public statements over the last two years, and what she is known to have said in private, suggest that she believes no genocide has occurred in the Rohingya case. She thinks that, on the contrary, the outside world has deeply misunderstood and exaggerated the Rohingya crisis. She no doubt intends to use the legal setting in The Hague to try to set the record straight. She also no doubt understands that the eyes of the world will be on her at this pivotal moment for Myanmar. The global audience – particularly in the West – will expect her to go much farther than she has in previous speeches in acknowledging the security forces' wrongdoing and committing to address it. It remains to be seen how far she will go in this direction.

What impact will Aung San Suu Kyi's appearance in The Hague have within Myanmar?

Views on the Rohingya crisis inside Myanmar are almost diametrically opposed to those outside the country. The near ubiquitous narrative in the country – coming from its leaders and promulgated by the local media – is that the outside world misunderstands what has happened with the Rohingya. Myanmar thinks that its primary problem is therefore one of communication: how to explain the "real situation" more clearly and effectively.

Since The Gambia filed the ICJ case on 11 November, and Aung San Suu Kyi decided to represent Myanmar personally in The Hague, a wave of nationalist fervour has swept the country. Billboards and mass rallies endorse her mission at the ICJ; even the military – her nemesis during fifteen years of house arrest – is giving her its unequivocal backing. The civilian government is likewise soliciting vocal support from the people for the state counsellor's defence of the nation. President Win Myint's wife even conducted a ritual at Aung San Suu Kyi's "eternal peace pagoda" in Naypyitaw, invoking the spirits to confer success on her efforts.

"Since [...] Aung San Suu Kyi decided to represent Myanmar personally in The Hague, a wave of nationalist fervour has swept the country."

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This outpouring of support will play well for Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy in the November 2020 elections, though electoral advantage is unlikely to be her primary motivation. Her stance for Myanmar in The Hague could also lead to a slight thaw in the chilly relations between the civilian government and the military. But the risk is that unleashing the forces of narrow nationalism will not only silence voices calling for human rights protections and greater tolerance for diversity in the country but also postpone any honest national reckoning with what happened to the Rohingya. Such an accounting is the only way that Myanmar can get out of its international legal and diplomatic predicament.

What impact will the ICJ case have on international perceptions of Myanmar?

A moment of truth is fast approaching. Part of Aung San Suu Kyi's international audience at The Hague will consist of some Asian governments that are determined to maintain close bilateral ties with Naypyitaw. She might say enough to satisfy them, but she will have more difficulty meeting the expectations of Western governments. It is hard to imagine, moreover, given the documentation of the Rohingva's plight, that she will convince the many sceptical observers in the global media and civil society that Myanmar's state is misunderstood and unfairly maligned. In defending Myanmar as part of proceedings livestreamed worldwide, she will necessarily be defending the military against genocide charges. Anyone can easily compare the substance of this defence with the numerous third-party reports about why so many Rohingya fled northern Myanmar and how they are living stuck in Bangladesh. Anyone can also read about the Rohingya who continue to live in precarious circumstances at home. Myanmar could lose in the court of international public opinion well before the ICJ makes any legal ruling.

Human Rights Watch, "What Makes Gambia a Good Champion Of The Cause of The Rohingyas, Interview with Reed Brody", 16 December 2019

Available at:

https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/12/16/what-makes-gambia-good-champion-cause-rohingyas



December 16, 2019 9:30AM EST

What Makes Gambia a Good Champion Of The Cause Of The Rohingyas

Interview with Reed Brody

Published in: The Fatu Network





Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou and Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi attend a hearing in a case filed by Gambia against Myanmar alleging genocide against the minority Muslim Rohingya population, at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, Netherlands December 10, 2019. © 2019 Reuters/Yves Herman

Reed Brody is counsel with Human Rights Watch and a member of the International Commission of Jurists. He is known to Gambians for his work with the victims of ex-president Yahya Jammeh and his role in the campaign to bring to justice in Senegal the former dictator of Chad Hissène Habré. TFN asked Brody about The Gambia's case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice which held preliminary hearings on 10-12 December.

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What Makes Gambia a Good Champion Of The Cause Of The Rohingyas | Human Rights Watch

Q. What do you make of The Gambia's decision to bring this case?

A. When we heard that The Gambia was actually going to do this, cheers went up from activists around the world. The slaughter, rape and displacement of hundreds of thousands of Muslim Rohingyas is one of the worst mass atrocities of our time. Before Gambia brought this case, these crimes had largely been beyond the reach of justice.

Q. What can this case achieve?

A. It has already achieved so much. For the first time, streamed live across the globe, and with Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi sitting right there, The Gambia's lawyers laid out, before the highest court in the world, the evidence pointing to Myanmar's policy of genocide. People in the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh, where they were chanting "Gambia, Gambia," finally could feel someone was doing something. While the case may take many years to reach a final ruling, The Gambia asked for provisional measures which could be granted within a month, to stop Myanmar's genocidal actions. And ICJ orders are legally binding. The long campaign to bring Hissène Habré to justice only reached its goal after Belgium got the ICJ to order Senegal to put him on trial.

Q. But why Gambia?

A. Why not? Should we always leave it to big powers to take these kind of bold international actions? That's one of the reasons we're in our current mess. And I think the fact that Gambia is now a democracy trying to come to grips with its own abusive past made it a good champion, as did the Minister of Justice's personal experiences in Rwanda.

Q. Some people say that with all Gambia's economic and political problems, why do we need to spend our energies on this?

A. First of all, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation is paying all the fees, so this doesn't cost The Gambia anything. Indeed, the goodwill and positive publicity that The Gambia is garnering all around the world with this move will certainly comeback to benefit the people of The Gambia, in reputation and recognition.

Q. We've heard some victims of the former regime ask why the government is pursuing justice for the Rohingya but not for victims here at home.

A. Obviously, I sympathize with the impatience of many Gambian victims. My main work these days is helping develop a path to bring Yahya Jammeh and his henchmen to justice, and I know that every day without justice is a prolongation of their agony. But the two things aren't mutually exclusive. We can push on both fronts.

Q. But isn't it hypocritical by the government?

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What Makes Gambia a Good Champion Of The Cause Of The Rohingyas | Human Rights Watch

A. Without getting into value judgments, let me say this. No government has a clean record. When the United States levies sanctions against Jammeh and his family, or speaks out for the rights of the protesters in Hong Kong, we applaud, we don't say "what about your treatment of Mexicans at the border?" If we can't get imperfect governments to do the right thing every now and then, the human rights movement would collapse.

Q. Getting back to the ICJ case, what was your impression of the hearings on Gambia's request for provisional measures?

A. The Gambia presented a compelling case. Gambia had a very tough burden of showing that Myanmar acted with "genocidal intent" but I think its legal team did a great job laying out the evidence. The team is headed by Paul Reichler, one of the most experienced advocates before the ICJ. I've known Paul since 1985 when he represented Nicaragua in its landmark victory against the United States for arming counterrevolutionaries seeking to overthrow the government. Back then, he introduced into evidence my report, the first one I ever researched, detailing the atrocities committed by those "contras" against Nicaraguan civilians.

Q. And Myanmar? Why do you think Aung San Suu Kyi represented her country herself?

A. This was clearly for domestic political reasons. With elections coming up there, she wanted to show her support of the military and also to align herself with the majority Buddhist Birmans who hate the Muslim Rohingyas and have mistreated them and denied them basic citizenship rights for over a century. But from an international standpoint, it was a disaster. Usually if someone accuses you of a terrible crime, genocide no less, you try to silence it or avoid talking about it. Here, she rushed to The Hague, guaranteeing the presence and attention of the world's media. And she didn't even pronounce the word "Rohingya" which Gambia's lawyers pointed to as an illustration of how Myanmar denies the group's very existence. It will also now be impossible for the Myanmar government to say it doesn't regard the court as legitimate, and to try to ignore any order it may hand down.

Q. What next?

A. Because Gambia requested provisional measures, the court will likely rule in the next month. Then it will take a couple of years to get to the merits of Gambia's claim.

Q. What's your prediction?

A. It's very hard to know. The ICJ is a very, conservative and traditionalist court. It's mostly made up of former government ministers and it is very loath to step in to the affairs of sovereign countries. And the burden of asking it to do so on an emergency basis, before it has made a full inquiry into the facts, is a very heavy one. But Gambia made the case, I think, and the eyes of the world are on the court.

Human Rights Watch, "Interview: Landmark World Court Order Protects Rohingya from Genocide", 27 January 2020

Available at:

https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/01/27/interview-landmark-world-court-order-protectsrohingya-genocide 08/01/2021

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Interview: Landmark World Court Order Protects Rohingya from Genocide

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Abdul Kareem, a Rohingya Muslim, carries his mother, Alima Khatoon, to a refugee camp after crossing from Burma into Bangladesh on Sept. 16, 2017. © 2017 Dar Yasin/AP



Amy Braunschweiger Senior Web Communications Manager **J** amybrauns

08/01/2021

Interview: Landmark World Court Order Protects Rohingya from Genocide | Human Rights Watch

On January 23, 2020, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague ordered Myanmar to take all necessary measures to protect Rohingya Muslims from genocide. In late 2017, Myanmar's military massacred tens of thousands of Rohingya, committed widespread rape, and torched dozens of villages. The campaign of ethnic cleansing forced 740,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh, but 600,000 remained in Myanmar, where they "may face a greater threat of genocide than ever," a United Nations-backed fact-finding mission said. The associate director of Human Rights Watch's international justice program, Param-Preet Singh, tells Amy Braunschweiger how this court order is a first – but huge – step to hold Myanmar accountable for its atrocities against the Rohingya.

It was a year ago that you started pursuing the unique approach to holding Myanmar accountable in the ICJ. How did that come about?

The idea of a country without any connection to the crimes bringing a case to the International Court of Justice had never been done before, even though, technically, any member state of the 1948 Genocide Convention could do so. The fact that it was Gambia – a small African country recovering from 20-plus years of dictatorship – and not a big, rich country makes its leadership even more inspiring.

It's now more than two years since Myanmar's latest ethnic cleansing campaign began, and military atrocities against the Rohingya go back years. Why have there been no consequences until now?

Myanmar's longstanding brutal treatment of ethnic Rohingya is exactly the kind of crisis that the International Criminal Court (ICC) was created to address. The ICC tries individuals for grave international crimes, while the ICJ adjudicates disputes between countries. But since Myanmar isn't a member of the ICC, only the UN Security Council could refer the situation to the ICC. That hasn't happened because China has acted as Myanmar's ally and protector, and as permanent member of the Security Council, can veto any resolution. The implied threat of a Chinese veto has managed to stifle criticism of Myanmar's egregious human rights record and kept the situation from being referred to the ICC.



August 5, 2018

"Bangladesh Is Not My Country"

The Plight of Rohingya Refugees from Myanmar

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Interview: Landmark World Court Order Protects Rohingya from Genocide | Human Rights Watch

You needed to find a country to bring the case before the ICJ. How did that work?

When we first started raising this, at the UN in New York and in Canada and with other countries that had spoken out on genocide against the Rohingya, they said, what a creative, interesting idea – it's not going to happen. We reached out to countries that had ratified the Genocide Convention in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Then, out of nowhere, the West African nation of Gambia made public their intention to move ahead. I wish we could claim credit! Gambian Minister of Justice Abubaccar Tambadou's vision, moral courage and leadership in seeking justice for the Rohingya is truly inspirational. Gambia demonstrated to the world that there was a state brave enough to take on Myanmar's brutal ethnic cleansing campaign and risk China's wrath in doing so.

Gambia's decision to step forward gave new life to our efforts to reach out to countries around the globe, because now we were asking them to support Gambia in moving forward.

Gambia is just emerging from two decades of brutal dictatorship. Why did it take this on?

Gambian Justice Minister Tambadou had worked as a prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, prosecuting cases from the 1994 Rwandan genocide. When he unexpectedly found himself in Bangladesh, sent at the last minute to represent his country at the annual conference of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, he met with Rohingya refugees at Bangladesh's Cox Bazar camp. He says that after listening to story after story, it was clear that they had experienced genocide. And he felt morally compelled to do something about it.



Rohingya refugees gather in an open field at Kutupalong refugee camp in Ukhia, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh to commemorate the twoyear anniversary of the Myanmar military's ethnic cleansing campaign in Rakhine State on August 25, 2019. © 2019 K M Asad/LightRocket via Getty Images

What was it like being in The Hague for the ICJ hearing in December?

We brought a couple of Rohingya activists to The Hague and experiencing the moment with them was really moving. They felt they were finally being recognized by the world court because their government tried to erase them, which brought heartbreak but also power.

Outside the court building, there were demonstrations, a lot of shouting and chanting by both Rohingya and Myanmar government supporters. The decision of de

facto Myanmar leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi to defend the military in person before the court brought an extra level of scrutiny – as well as more demonstrators and media.

Interview: Landmark World Court Order Protects Rohingya from Genocide | Human Rights Watch

The Rohingya activists said they felt betrayed by Suu Kyi, who had spent many years under house arrest by the then-military government for her pro-democracy activism. They told me that they once hoped she would be their protector, but she was protecting the military instead.

What's the significance of Aung San Suu Kyi defending Myanmar's military in court?

The fact that she went to The Hague and personally spoke in defense of the military's actions against a minority community means she has owned the military's atrocities in court before the entire world. She has aligned herself with the perpetrators rather than the victims.

What does the court's order mean for the Rohingya? For international justice?

The ICJ directed Myanmar to prevent genocide, and this could have a real impact in protecting the 600,000 Rohingya who remain in the country. Additionally, the ICJ process means Rohingya survivors and activists have a platform for their experiences to be recognized.

The ICJ order is a powerful reminder that Myanmar should not rely on powerful countries – notably China – to escape its responsibilities under the Genocide Convention and other international



Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou and Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi attend a hearing in a case filed by Gambia against Myanmar alleging genocide against the minority Muslim Rohingya population, at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, Netherlands December 10, 2019. © 2019 Reuters/Yves Herman

treaties. It also brings hope that so long as countries like Gambia are willing to step up, international justice can prevail.

Can the court's order be enforced?

The ICJ has made a legally binding ruling, but enforcing it, given Myanmar's track record, could prove difficult. The world needs to raise the political cost of non-compliance for Myanmar and show them countries are watching. Human Rights Watch will be urging governments to use their diplomatic leverage with Myanmar to improve the Rohingya's situation. We will also promote resolutions at the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly to send a strong message to Myanmar to abide by the court's order. The Security Council, too, could play an important role in enforcing the order, but because of China's veto power I'm not holding my breath. In that regard, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who issued a strong statement in support of the ICJ ruling and has urged the Security Council to act on the Rohingya crisis in the past, could be a key player.

What's next?

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Annex 172 Interview: Landmark World Court Order Protects Rohingya from Genocide | Human Rights Watch



Rohingya refugees at a camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, January 1, 2019. © 2019 AP Photo

Now the ICJ will hear submissions from both sides about the merits of the case, that is, whether or not Myanmar committed genocide against the Rohingya. It's a pretty long road and will take years to unfold, and no outcome is certain. But this court order, and the court requirement that Myanmar report regularly on its implementation of the order – every six months -- makes clear that the court is taking the matter very seriously and its scrutiny isn't going away. And that could go a long way to helping protect the Rohingya remaining in

Myanmar.

You woke up at 3:30 a.m. in New York to hear the ruling and finalize Human Rights Watch's response. Was it what you expected?

It all feels surreal. I had a feeling the court would hand down a favorable ruling, but that the 17 judges ruled unanimously is simply incredible. It adds to the weight of the order. There was a moment of panic before everything starts, and I started thinking, what if they rule against Gambia? What would we tell our Rohingya partners? And there's also the logistics – getting our news release out quickly, answering media calls, and commenting on social media to explain to the world this important victory for the Rohingya, Gambia and international justice.

When, at the end of the ruling, the chief judge said "unanimously," then hearing him say it four times over – that really drove the point home.

If you had told me a year ago that we would be in this place, I'd have said you were crazy. But that's our job, right? To do our part to make things happen and help survivors get the justice they deserve.

Your tax deductible gift can help stop human rights violations and save lives around the world.

Alison Smith and Francesca Basso (No Peace Without Justice), "Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next", Coalition for the International Criminal Court, 13 February 2020

Available at:

https://www.coalitionfortheicc.org/node/2831

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Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next?

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Live feed from the Rohingya camp in an panel discussion on the Myanmar situation organized by NPWJ last month in The Hague.

13 FEBRUARY 2020

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Annex 173

Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next? | Coalition for the International Criminal Court

Alison Smith and Francesca Basso, No Peace Without Justice

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By Alison Smith and Francesca Basso, No Peace Without Justice.

For decades, the Burmese military and State – most recently under the auspices of Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi's government – have been consciously and systematically violating the fundamental human rights of the Rohingya population in Myanmar. One of the most striking denials is that of citizenship: the Rohingya are not recognised in Myanmar as an ethnic group and most are unable to produce the paperwork required for the most basic level of citizenship due to decades of discrimination and repression. Because of this, most Rohingya are effectively stateless, which means a whole host of rights are unavailable to them, including the right to vote, study, work, travel, marry, practice their religion and access health services.

Since the 2017 military crackdown, in which human rights abuses and a vast array of atrocities were committed, 720,000 Rohingya people have fled to Bangladesh, where they have been living in refugee camps in unsustainable conditions. It is estimated that another 100,000 are internally displaced, confined in camps within Myanmar. Burmese Rohingya have been subject to mass killings, sexual and gender-based violence and other atrocities, to the extent that UN Secretary-General Guterres defined them as "the most persecuted minority in the world".

The legal situation(s) background

https://www.coalitionfortheicc.org/news/20200213/justice-rohingya-what-has-happened-and-what-comes-next

1/8/2021

Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next? | Coalition for the International Criminal Court In November 2019, The Gambia took on the Rohingya case on behalf of a larger collective of States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), by bringing genocide allegations before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and seeking provisional measures directed towards ending the genocide punishing those who commit it and protecting and

towards ending the genocide, punishing those who commit it and protecting and preserving relevant evidence. Over at the International Criminal Court (ICC), Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda requested authorisation to initiate an investigation into the situation of Bangladesh/Myanmar over alleged crimes against humanity in July 2019. Meanwhile, in Argentina, a universal jurisdiction case has been filed by Tun Khin, President the Burmese Rohingya Organisation UK, alleging serious crimes including genocide against the Rohingya. These three cases came together in a "perfect storm" in November 2019, raising hopes that justice might be becoming more of a reality for the Rohingya. This post will focus on the two cases within international jurisdictions, but it is worth recalling that the road to justice will be long and the more accountability options that can be activated, the more likely it is that road will lead to eventual success for the Rohingya.

One situation for two Courts

The International Court of Justice (ICJ)

The ICJ, the UN's principal Court, has jurisdiction over disputes between States about UN Treaties and binding legal instruments. In November 2019, The Gambia filed a contentious case against Myanmar, claiming that Myanmar had failed to comply with its international obligations under the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Genocide Convention), which Myanmar ratified in 1956 and The Gambia acceded to in 1978. The case is historical, since it is the first time a State has brought a genocide case before the ICJ when it was not directly involved in the alleged genocide.

Both parties made oral submissions at the ICJ in December 2019. Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi claimed that while there may have been war crimes, there had been no genocide; according to Myanmar, the 2017 Burmese military action had been solely aimed at calming down social unrest in Rakhine state. Tellingly, no member of Myanmar's legal team referred to the Rohingya by name: the only time they uttered the word "Rohingya" was in the context of claims that counter-insurgency operations were necessary due to attacks launched by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. The Gambia, by contrast, provided large amounts of information detailing the long-standing persecution and repression of the Rohingya and the genocidal acts committed against them, including mass killings, torture, burnings and sexual and gender-based violence. In their opening

1/8/2021

Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next? | Coalition for the International Criminal Court statement, The **Gambia's Minister of Justice Aboubacarr Marie Tambadou** said "All that The Gambia asks is that you tell Myanmar to stop these senseless killings, to stop these acts of barbarity and brutality that have shocked and continue to shock our collective conscience, to stop this genocide of its own people".

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On 23 January 2020, the ICJ released its landmark decision on provisional measures. Endorsed unanimously by all 17 judges, the binding decision orders Myanmar to act promptly to prevent further abuses and human rights violations against Rohingya population; to avoid the destruction or damaging of evidence related to the case; and to report regularly to the ICJ on actions undertaken to reach these objectives, initially at 4 months then every 6 months after that. The provisional measures are the latest development within the ICJ framework. Now the hard work of building the case of genocide for the eventual hearing on the merits is beginning, for which initial pleadings are due by The Gambia on 23 July 2020 and by Myanmar on 25 January 2021.

The International Criminal Court (ICC)

As for the ICC, the court of last resort established by the 1998 Rome Statute, matters are slightly different. Unlike the ICJ, the ICC does not adjudicate on States but on individuals, with jurisdiction over the international law violations listed in the Rome Statute, including war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. Absent a UN Security Council Resolution or referral by a State of crimes committed in its own country, the ICC only has jurisdiction over crimes allegedly committed by the national of a State Party or on the territory of a State Party, which Myanmar is not. In this framework, the Rohingya case involves crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the ICC, particularly the crime against humanity of deportation, and perpetrated against Burmese Rohingya population that ended in Bangladesh, even if they started in Myanmar. On 14 November 2019, ICC judges authorised the Prosecutor to open investigations, having received her request to do so in July and having heard views from hundreds of thousands of alleged victims.

As noted, this situation is peculiar in that while Bangladesh is a party to the Rome Statute, Myanmar is not. In the usual course of events, acts committed in Myanmar would not be admissible before the ICC, as they would fall outside its jurisdiction. In this case, however, the Court has authorised the investigation "with broad parameters", on any crimes "committed, at least in part, on the territory of Bangladesh (or any other State Party or State formally accepting the jurisdiction of the ICC), insofar as the crimes are sufficiently linked to the situation, and irrespective of the nationality of the perpetrators", as explained last week by **Phakiso Mochochoko**, **Director of the Jurisdiction**, **Complementarity and Cooperation division at the ICC**. On this basis, the ICC Office of the

Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next? | Coalition for the International Criminal Court Prosecutor is currently in the process of organising a fact-finding mission to gather relevant evidence and build their case(s).

What now?

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The ICJ decision has been a reason of joy for the Rohingya worldwide and a clear message that such gross and systematic human rights violations should not go unnoticed or unpunished. In a panel discussion on Rohingya perspectives hosted by No Peace Without Justice and partner NGOs immediately after the release of the order for provisional measures, Rohingya activists expressed their satisfaction and optimism for this partial but significant victory, calling for the momentum not to fade away. Significantly, the ICJ recognised the Rohingya as a protected group under the Genocide Convention, prompting **Mayyu Ali, Rohingya Author and Poet**, to tweet "Oh Wow: My #Rohingya people and me are protected under the Genocide Convention, the ICJ concludes now".

Myanmar, however, continues to stand in firm denial of any genocidal intent towards the Rohingya population, claiming they are carrying out their own investigation on the 2017 incidents through the domestic Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE). Just before the release of the ICJ's decision on provisional measures, the ICOE had issued a report on the situation, stating that, while it acknowledges that war crimes might have been committed, no genocidal intent has been found – a clear attempt to render the ICJ allegations ill-founded. Rohingya activist **Yasmin Ullah** defined this move as "the new media strategy" implemented by Suu Kyi's government in order to get away with committing atrocities.

In the meantime, Rohingya population is still discriminated against and targeted by Myanmar military forces, despite the provisional measures issued by the ICJ. The chief commander of the Burmese army reported that regarding these measures, Myanmar will apply the existing laws – namely, the ones which created this situation in the first place. In January, Myanmar also denied access to UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar Yanghee Lee, who was forced to carry out her fact-finding mission from Thailand and Bangladesh.

So, despite what the ICJ decision means to the Rohingya, the challenge will be to ensure Myanmar actually complies with the order and that the international community is galvanised to encourage them to do so, starting with the UN Security Council despite its failure to do so when presented with the opportunity in early February 2020. As far as the ICC situation is concerned, it will likely take a significant time to complete their investigations and build cases against individual perpetrators of the crimes in question. There continue to be challenges for the ICC in terms of its ability to connect effectively

Justice for the Rohingya: What has happened and what comes next? | Coalition for the International Criminal Court with victims and populations affected by the crimes, meaning they will need to step up outreach efforts for the Rohingya.

Despite these challenges, current developments in both Courts are highly significant,
 especially for their symbolic force. There is hope that cases at the ICJ and ICC and elsewhere will finally result in justice for the Rohingya, ensuring accountability for perpetrators and redress for victims. For now, at least, the message is clear: human rights violations and crimes against humanity will not be glossed over. Constant commitment and common efforts are now needed so that they will not remain unpunished.

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Annex 174 "Dhaka OIC Youth Capital 2020" HAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED – OIC Youth Capital



"Dhaka OIC Youth Capital 2020" HAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

28th July 2020 DHAKA, NEWS

Dhaka OIC Youth Capital 2020 was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina in a virtual inauguration declaration ceremony on Monday 27th July, 2020. The Inauguration program was attended by His Excellency Yousef bin Ahmad Al- Othaimeen, Secretary General, Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC); His Excellency Mr. Azad Rahimov, Hon'ble Minister of Youth and Sports of Republic of Azerbaijan; H.E. Dawda A. Jallow, Justice Minister and Attorney General of the Gambia , His Excellency Mr. Taha Ayhan, President, Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF), Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen MP, Honorable Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, Md. Zahid Ahsan Russel MP, Honorable State Minister for Youth and Sports of Bangladesh along with other global leaders and dignitaries.

The event was inaugurated at the National Sports Council. Dr. Momen, Honorable Foreign Minister, Mr. Md. Zahid Ahsan Russel, MP, Hon'ble State Minister of the Ministry of Youth & Sports and high officials from both the Ministry attended the event in person in the venue maintaining proper health standards and social distancing. The other Ministers and Dignitaries which includes Ambassadors of Foreign Missions in Bangladesh, Ambassadors of Bangladesh from some countries, Secretaries from Different Ministries, eminent personalities and Journalists from home and abroad have joined virtually in the inauguration ceremony. More than 200 participants from 75 (seventy five) countries who have been shortlisted for "Resilient Youth Leadership Summit" also joined this virtual inauguration program.

Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh in her statement highlighted on the strength and vitality of Youth and recalled the achievement and sacrifices of the father of the Nation Bangabandhu during his youth. She also highlighted on the plight of the persecuted Rohingya Community and asked the global community to build global consensus for their sustainable, safe and dignified repatriation. Hon'ble Prime Minister has stressed that in all the visions and plan, Bangladesh Government has put utmost importance on the youth. With the power of the youth, Bangladesh has already materialized the Vision-2021 to transform it into a "Digital Bangladesh" and the decision of organizing the whole "Dhaka, OIC Youth Capital 2020" program is a testament to the technologically empowered advanced Bangladesh

Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP said, "We were expected to launch the event sequence in April 2020. But the COVID-19 pushed us back. Now – we have remodeled and relaunched ourselves on the web-platform. Additionally, we have reasons to believe that the occurrence of the COVID-19 has only accentuated the underlying rationale for the theme of this year's edition 'Resilience for Parity and Prosperity'. Hon'ble Foreign Minister has mentioned about the "Resilient Youth Leadership Summit" where Youth across the globe will visit the Rohingya Camp in Cox's bazar virtually and sensitize them with the plights of these persecuted people and discuss with humanitarian experts to concoct how the accountability and justice can be ensured for them.

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"Dhaka OIC Youth Capital 2020" HAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED - OIC Youth Capital

H.E. Dawda A. Jallow, Justice Minister and Attorney General of the Gambia highlighted his country's principled positions on the Rohingya crisis and the principles of international law and international genocide and other humanitarian laws. He noted that the ICJ ordered provisional measures against Myanmar for stopping the onslaught of the genocide. He noted that the Rohingyas have a birthright to their homeland in the Northern Rakhine and their mandate for citizenship and legal rights remain a common commitment for the international community.

Mr. Md. Zahid Ahsan Russel, MP gave a brief on the history and background of the selection procedure of Dhaka as the OIC Youth Capital. He emphasized on the indomitable spirit and vigour of the of the youth of Bangladesh and world as well. He further mentioned about the achievement of youth in different sector of Bangladesh and welcomed everyone for joining this august event. The Hon'ble State Minister mentioned that he inauguration declaration programme will be followed by a virtual youth summit titled "Resilient Youth Leadership Summit" on 27th and 28th July 2020, where 250 shortlisted youths out of more than 1200 applications from 75 countries will meet expert panelists in various day long activities to learn and craft the strategies to build a Resilient World, particularly, in the context of this COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Mr. Ayhan started his speech by thanking Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Honorable Prime Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for welcoming this year's OIC Youth Capital Program in the magnificent city of Dhaka, a city of youth. He continued by emphasizing that "Bangladesh has become one of Asia's most remarkable success stories in recent years, is moving quickly to a high-value, knowledge-intensive society, beyond apparel manufacturing, and will be the 26th largest economy in the world, by 2030". "With its asset of two-third of its population is under 25, quick learners, adaptive to technologies, and ready to engage in their communities, Bangladesh will certainly keep moving to highest levels of sustainable development" Mr. Ayhan added.

Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC),Hon'ble Minister of Youth and Sports of Republic of Azerbaijan and Hon'ble President of Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF) in their statement praised Bangladesh for their outstanding preparation and called upon the youths of the OIC member states to build stronger fraternity among them.

A series of events will be organized at the OIC Youth Capital Dhaka 2020 including OIC Scout Leaders E-Meet: People for better planet, Bangabandhu Youth Leadership Award, Holy Quran Recitation Competition, Film Festival: Lockdown by the Lence, OIC Knowledge Master: Quiz competition, Art Exhibition: Creativity to create better world, Debate Competition: Topics on new Free world, Youth Bootcamp – Leadership, Youth development, Entrepreneurship, Skill & Employment Camp etc. Dates of these events will be confirmed later.





1/9/2021