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Statement of Ireland

57th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue on the report by the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar

9 September 2024

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar for its report.

Ireland commends the Mechanism's ongoing work in collecting, preserving and analysing evidence of international crimes and human rights violations and abuses, particularly when facing challenges, including lack of physical access to crime sites or witnesses in Myanmar.

We reiterate our strong support for the Mechanism as a key way to challenge the culture of impunity for military leaders. We urge all member states to support the Mechanism's crucial work.

The latest report makes clear that the conflict in Myanmar has escalated substantially, bringing with it fatalities, displacement, torture and abuse, perpetrated mainly by the Myanmar military or affiliated militias. We are appalled by evidence that the number, complexity and geographic scope of serious crimes has continued to expand. We reiterate our call on the Myanmar military to cease all violence and attacks against the people of Myanmar immediately.

We welcome the Mechanism's focus on sexual and gender-based crimes and crimes against children, which are too often underreported and undocumented. We also welcome the Mechanism's new avenue of investigation into crimes committed by multiple parties to the conflict against Rohingya in Northern Rakhine State since May 2024.

Mr Koumjian,
How can Member States support the Investigative Mechanism in addressing the challenges you face, particularly in terms of access to witnesses?