

**Statement by Hungary on Myanmar
23rd Session of the UPR Working Group
6 November 2015**

Mr. President,

Hungary welcomes the high-level delegation of Myanmar.

We acknowledge the positive developments with regard to reforms and further efforts to move toward a truly democratic country. We welcome the signing of a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Myanmar and Ethnic Armed Organisations, and commend the parties for concluding a challenging negotiation process. We also welcome the signature of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

Hungary wishes to raise the following points:

- As Myanmar is party only to three of the core human rights instruments, we **recommend** the ratification of the outstanding core treaties, such as ICCPR, CAT, and CERD.
- We note the need to introduce reforms in the judiciary and in the regulation of the legal profession in Myanmar, so as to bring them in line with international standards. Hungary **recommends** the amendment of the Bar Council Act in order to allow for the Bar Council to become a truly independent and self-governing association. We also **recommend** the definition of professional legal standards and disciplinary procedures in conformity with the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.
- Finally, while the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Myanmar and the UN country task force is welcome, as it allowed more effective monitoring and reporting on violations against children in armed conflict, Hungary **recommends** that the Government approve the opening of an OHCHR country office to provide for enhanced protection of and cooperation on human rights.

Thank you, Mr. President!