

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA Review of Myanmar 23rd Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council 2 – 13 November 2015

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Myanmar to the 23rd Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

- 2. Malaysia is encouraged by the on-going democratization and reconciliation processes in Myanmar which paves the way for further socio-economic development and further improving the human rights situation in the country. We also note the various efforts undertaken by the Government of Myanmar including in bringing its legislation on human rights in line with international norms and standards.
- 3. However, we also note that challenges remain, particularly in ensuring equal rights of various ethnic minorities in the country. In this regard, my delegation wishes to offer the following **four recommendations**:
 - 3.1. **One**: expedite the process of granting citizenship to those minorities, including the Rohingyas, who consider Myanmar as home;
 - 3.2. **Two**: undertake concrete and positive steps to put an end to all acts of discrimination, violence and other human rights violations against the Rohingyas, other Muslims minorities as well as all minorities in general;
 - 3.3. **Three**: intensify efforts in actively promoting inter-ethnic, inter-faith and communal understanding and harmony; and
 - 3.4. **Four:** double its efforts in combating trafficking in persons including by bringing human traffickers and people smugglers to justice.
- 4. Malaysia believes that the General Elections in Myanmar on 8 November 2015 is important progress towards Myanmar's efforts in its national reconciliation and democratisation initiatives and wishes Myanmar well.

I thank you.

GENEVA 6 November 2015