**37th Session of the UPR Working Group**

 **Review of Myanmar, 25 January 2021**

**Statement by Austria**

Austria welcomes H.E. and the delegation of Myanmar and thanks them for their report and presentation today.

*[While recognizing some positive steps taken since the last review, Austria is deeply concerned about credible reports of gross, systematic and widespread human rights violations against Rohingya and other minority populations, persecution of human rights defenders and journalists as well as ongoing discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, race, religion and gender in law and in practice.*

*We also express our grave concerns about ongoing restrictions on humanitarian access in conflict-affected areas, particularly in Rakhine and Chin States, as well as the limited steps taken to ensure full accountability and justice for violations and abuses of human rights law and international humanitarian law in respect of alleged crimes committed against Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar.]*

Austria is deeply concerned that despite its commitments during the previous review in 2015, Myanmar did not achieve substantial progress in the promotion and protection of human rights over the past years.

We therefore offer the following recommendations:

* Repeal or amend the 1982 Citizenship Law in accordance with international human rights standards with a view to eliminating requirements for citizenship that discriminate on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity or any other status;
* Ensure that all legislative measures to combat hate speech comply with international human rights norms and standards.
* Cooperate effectively with the UN human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the IIMM and grant them unhindered access to the country.
* Ratify ICCPR, CAT, ICERD, ICPPED as well as the Rome Statute of the ICC.

The full version of our statement will be uploaded on the UPR Extranet.
I thank you.