ITEM 4: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

URGENT NEED FOR REGULAR AND ROBUST REPORTING ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN MYANMAR

Madam President,

Amnesty International thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report and her tireless efforts to draw the international community’s attention to the serious ongoing violations in Myanmar.

Her mandate has coincided with one of the darkest chapters in Myanmar’s recent history. The optimism of the early days of her tenure has been eclipsed by the horrific attack on the Rohingya population in Rakhine State and the appalling – and ongoing – war crimes and other serious human rights violations against ethnic minorities across the country, including ethnic Chin, Kachin, Rakhine, Shan, and Ta’ang communities. Ongoing restrictions on freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly underscore concerns about shrinking civic space.

We urge the Council to keep the situation in Myanmar under close – and continuous – review, including by renewing the mandate of the Special Rapporteur and ensuring that they have sufficient resources, including human resources, to continue robust and ongoing monitoring of the situation. We encourage the Council to invite the incoming Special Rapporteur to provide intersessional updates on the situation in Myanmar, in particular in the context of the elections scheduled for later this year. The Council should also urge the Myanmar authorities to cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), including by allowing them to establish a presence in the country with a full protection and promotion mandate.

Ms. Lee,

During your tenure as Special Rapporteur – and indeed even before it – there have been multiple reports presenting recommendations to Myanmar aimed at improving the human rights situation in the country. The solutions are clear, and yet the government has consistently failed to take
action. Moving forwards, how do you think this Council can most effectively push Myanmar to respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of all people in the country?

Thank you, Madam. President.