**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**57th Regular Session**

**Item 2**

**Oral Statement of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) in the Interactive Dialogue on the Report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar**

09 September 2024

Mr President,

The ICJ welcomes the progress made by the IIMM in its investigations into crimes in Myanmar, such as evidence collected on torture and other abuses in detention, including the commission of sexual and gender-based crimes.

The ICJ welcomes the initiative by Chile to dedicate this year’s annual discussion on mainstreaming a gender perspective to accountability mechanisms. The ICJ encourages the IIMM to continue incorporating a gender perspective in their work, and ensure gender-competent justice for survivors. Steps that can be taken include making their gender-related policies and strategies public and available to strengthen the engagement of civil society organizations on gender issues with the IIMM. The IIMM can develop public versions of analytical modules on gender constructs in Myanmar, and their impact on the commission of crimes and harms experienced by survivors. These should be developed with civil society, gender experts and other accountability mechanisms, ensuring the participation of women and LGBTQI+ persons with diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds.

The ICJ commends the IIMM for sharing evidence and analysis with the three ongoing investigations and judicial proceedings related to crimes against the Rohingya. The ICJ deplores the accountability gap concerning serious crimes under international law committed by the military junta and armed groups across Myanmar post-coup, which further entrenches cycles of impunity. We call on UN Member States to hold perpetrators of serious crimes under international law accountable, including gender-based crimes and crimes committed post-coup against different ethnic groups, by exercising universal jurisdiction and supporting documentation and accountability efforts.

The ICJ also appeals to the Council to reiterate the need to allow the IIMM to access border regions of neighbouring States of Myanmar and to work with refugee communities from Myanmar in these States and around the world.

Thank you.

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