

OIC/EX-COM/2012

**Final Communiqué
of the Extra-ordinary
Executive Committee Meeting
on Myanmar Muslim Rohingya Minority
held on 5 August 2012,
Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

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The open-ended Extra-ordinary Executive Committee of the OIC convened at the Permanent Representative level on 5th August 2012 at OIC Headquarters to discuss the critical situation of the Muslim ethnic Rohingya minority under the chairmanship of Mr. Bakhyt Batyrshayev, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to OIC. After a round of discussions, the Committee;

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and pursuant to the resolutions on the question of Muslim Minorities and Communities;

Stressing the need to respect the universally accepted human rights and norms and principles of international humanitarian law;

Condemning the continued disregard of international law by Myanmar and its detrimental implications for regional and global peace, stability and security;

Appreciating the efforts of the OIC Group on Human Rights and Humanitarian Issues in Geneva to highlight the Rohingya issue in line with the Secretary General's proposals;

Commending highly the efforts of the Secretary General to resolve the issue of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar by convening this Extra-ordinary Executive Committee and his early and timely response to the situation in Arakan particularly by communicating to the UN Secretary General, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, ASEAN Secretary General, EU High Representative, President of Myanmar and Chairperson of National League for Democracy, and expressing concern to governments in the region particularly with the People's Republic of China during his recent visit;

Welcoming High Representative Baroness Catherine Ashton's statement on July 22, 2012 stating that the EU is closely monitoring acts of violence against the Muslim minority in Myanmar and will be dispatching experts from the European Community Humanitarian office (ECHO) to Myanmar to determine the urgent needs of the Muslims, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay's, statement on July 27th 2012 claiming that Muslim Communities in Arakan State were being targeted by Myanmar security forces and the announcement of sending a special rapporteur to Myanmar, the visit by Vijay Nambear, Special Adviser on Myanmar to UN Secretary General, H.E. Ban Ki-moon, to Arakan state in Myanmar after the violence erupted;

Having listened to the speech of the OIC Secretary General, the presentation of Dr. Wakar Uddin, Director General of Arakan Rohingya Union (ARU), and to the interventions of Head of Delegations:

1. Condemns in the strongest possible terms the brutal aggression and systematic gross violations of human rights committed by armed gangs and encouraged by the authorities and condemns in particular the involvement of security forces and their instigation in the clashes by the Myanmar authorities and the Buddhist against innocent unarmed Muslim civilians;

2. Emphasizes that the atrocities committed against Rohingya minority in Myanmar including killing, razing houses, forced eviction, forced labor in harsh conditions, summary executions, rape, torture that have approached the crime of genocide and represent a serious threat to international peace and security and regional stability, as clearly demonstrated by the recent violence, constitute It is a serious crime against humanity and a blatant breach of international law, which needs to receive proper reaction by the international community through bringing Myanmar authorities who are responsible for these heinous acts to justice;

3. Reiterates its firm and unwavering demand for an immediate halt of the unlawful acts of crimes against humanity perpetrated towards Rohingya in Myanmar and the opening of Myanmar borders to allow for unfettered humanitarian access;

4. Highlights the United Nations Declaration that the “Rohingya are a linguistic, religious, ethnic minority from western Burma”;

5. Calls upon the Myanmar authorities and Rakhine Buddhists to abstain from the use of force and violence and give precedence to peaceful resolutions through dialogue towards national unity, and

6. Recommends:

- a) OIC Member States to support the United Arab Emirate’s call for a special session of the Human Rights Council and urgently request to file a collective complaint to the UNHRC requesting to dispatch a Commission of Inquiry. The Council should also ask Myanmar to cooperate fully with the Commission and to take measures to ensure the accountability of all violations of human rights in order to prevent their repetition and continue to monitor the situation;
- b) OIC Secretary General and Member States to explore all possible means through engagement with the United Nations including the tabling of a Rohingya Muslim specific resolution in the 3rd Committee of the UN General Assembly at the 66th Session of the UNGA;
- c) OIC Member States to request the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) to examine the situation of Rohingya Muslim minority in Myanmar as a priority issue on its agenda requiring immediate attention and action while presenting concrete recommendations to the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) towards addressing the issue in an effective manner;

- d) All Member States and non-Member States and local and international NGOs provide Humanitarian assistance to Rohingya Refugees as well as to the internally displaced in Myanmar;
- e) OIC Member States use their diplomatic contacts at the highest level to help alleviate the sufferings of the Muslim population of Arakan.
- f) OIC Member States, international organizations, along with Islamic and international civil society organizations move promptly and provide necessary and urgent humanitarian assistance to the Rohingya people and to assist them in surmounting this grave crisis, in line with the statement issued by the OIC Secretary General in which he appealed to OIC Member States and humanitarian international organizations to do so;
- g) That an OIC contact group be established in close coordination with Arakan Rohingya Union composed of all ASEAN Member States who are Member States of the OIC (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia) along with a representative of ASEAN Secretary General and OIC Secretary General. The rest of the membership will be decided by consultation between the OIC Secretary General and interested Member States. The group is mandated to consider ways, means, and mechanisms to ensure the halt of human rights violations against Muslim Rohingya in Myanmar and the return of their citizenship rights;
- h) OIC Secretary General appoint a special envoy for this important issue.
- i) OIC Secretary General submit his report to the 4th Extra-ordinary Summit on 14-15 August 2012 in Makkah Al-Mukaramah and the 39th CFM for necessary actions;
- j) OIC Secretary General send a high- level OIC Representative to Myanmar stand-alone and/or with the OIC Contact Group;
- k) OIC Member States request the UN Secretary General to intensify UN activities in order to immediately and unconditionally halt the violence against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar and alleviate their suffering;
- l) OIC Group in Geneva follow up the request of the United Arab Emirates' call for a special session of the Human Rights Council and ensure all OIC Member states to play a positive role in adopting all recommendations specifically a Commission of Inquiry;
- m) Calls upon world leaders to speak out against these crimes against humanity and urge the Myanmar Government to eliminate the discriminatory law and any other discriminatory practices against the Rohingya people.
- n) OIC Member States remain seized on this matter and requests the Secretary General to provide progress reports on the matter.