Human Rights Council 42nd Session

Agenda Item 4 – General Debate

NGO: IAJLJ - The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists

Representative delivering the statement: Maurice Kirschbaum

Thank you Mr. President.

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists expresses its concern about the ongoing situation in Myanmar.

It is evident from the reports submitted in this session that international crimes, including genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, continue to take place against minority groups in Myanmar.

Despite various reports, observations, and resolutions adopted, the situation in the region has not been sufficiently improved. Ethnic groups, such as the Rohingya, are still being persecuted, and Rohingya refugees are unable to return safely.

Any persecution against minority groups must immediately cease. It is up to the international community, member states, and the Council, to ensure that all minorities in Myanmar, regardless of their race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, or gender, are treated humanely, and equally, and are duly protected from any human rights violations.

Mr. President, it is important to note that the criminal process must not be the only line of enquiry. Parallel and complimentary courses of action, including diplomatic, and economic, should also be explored as might be deemed necessary and productive.

It is of the utmost important that the Council continue to investigate, monitor, and react to any warning sign for grave human rights and international law violations.

Thank you Mr. President.