



MYANMAR

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**Statement by Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun,
Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations
at the First Regular Session of the Executive Board of UNICEF**

(New York, 8 February 2022)

Mr. President,

Myanmar wishes to congratulate you for your election as the President of the Executive Board of UNICEF. I would like to commend you for your able leadership.

I also wish to congratulate Ms. Catherine M. Russell for her appointment as the Executive Director of UNICEF and thank her for the comprehensive report. I look forward to working closely with the Executive Director and her team in the work of UNICEF.

I wish to join the previous speakers in expressing our deep appreciation to UNICEF for its outstanding work in many areas in particular protection of children and promotion of their rights and addressing many challenges children all over the world are facing.

On my country, Myanmar, we are happy to learn that UNICEF's humanitarian strategy focuses on delivery of life-saving humanitarian assistance, to ensure continuity of critical services at scale and promoting durable solutions. We thank UNICEF for its assistance even in the time of crisis situation.

According to UNICEF, since the illegal military coup in Myanmar on 1 February 2021, at least 114 children between ages 3 and 17 have been killed by the military, 18 children in last month alone. The military junta's widespread and systematic violence against the population, which as per the preliminary analysis by the UN Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM) could amount to crimes against humanity, includes, among others, attacks on education and medical personnel, torture of arbitrary detainees to death, blockage of life-saving humanitarian assistance, burning houses and religious facilities and massacres of civilians including women and children.

The Christmas Eve massacre in Karenni State (Kayah State) on 24 December 2021 is one of the many atrocities committed by the military. In the incident, at least 35 civilians including women, children and two humanitarian response staff members of Save the Children were inhumanely killed and burnt by the military forces.

Many children all over the country especially in conflict affected areas need live-saving humanitarian assistance, health care and education services. Therefore, I wish to request the UNICEF to find all possible ways including cross border humanitarian assistance to provide necessary assistance to those children in need.

We would like to request the donor states to help UNICEF by providing necessary funding of USD 151.4 million required by UNICEF in order to respond ably to the multi-sectoral humanitarian needs of children in Myanmar in 2022.

Here, I wish to stress that it is critically important to make sure that the assistance reaches to the children in need.

I thank you.
