

Distr.: General 9 February 2021

Original: English

Human Rights Council Twenty-ninth special session 12 February 2021

Letter dated 8 February 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

With the support of the delegations listed below (see annex I), we hereby request that the Human Rights Council hold a special session on 11 February 2021 to address the human rights implications of the crisis in Myanmar. A special session is needed because of the importance and urgency of the situation. We make the present request to hold a special session in accordance with the relevant procedural rules, including paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 60/251, paragraphs 119 to 128 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, and rules 5 and 6 of the rules of procedure of the Council. Please share the present request with the Council secretariat and convene the Bureau at your earliest convenience in order that the necessary arrangements and notifications may be made. The present letter is submitted as a joint request by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union, as stated in the note verbale attached (annex II).

(signed)

Julian **Braithwaite** Ambassador Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



Annex I to the letter dated 8 February 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

States Members and observer States of the Human Rights Council requesting the convening of a special session

Member States

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Observer States

Australia, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States of America

Annex II to the letter dated 8 February 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

The Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva and, in its capacity as local Presidency of the Council of the European Union, has the honour to confirm that the European Union and its Member States wish to jointly submit with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the request for the Human Rights Council to hold a special session to address the human rights implications of the crisis in Myanmar.

The Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 8 February 2021