



MYANMAR

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**Statement by Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun, Permanent Representative of the
Republic of the Union of Myanmar to United Nations**

**Agenda item 86: the Scope and Application of the Principle of Universal Jurisdiction,
at the Six Committee of the Seventy-Sixth session of UN General Assembly
(New York, 22 October 2021)**

Madam Chair,

At the outset, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the working group for their thorough discussion of the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction. We also thank the Secretary-General for his report A/76/203. Though there is open and honest debate among delegations during its working group session, it is still far from reaching a consensus over the definition, condition, scope, application, and procedure of the universal jurisdiction.

Madam Chair,

We note that different delegations have divergent opinions on this issue. Some member states incorporate international humanitarian law, crime against humanity, war crimes, genocide, grave human rights violations, anti-terrorism in their domestic code of laws. For those crimes, the domestic courts of such member states were given jurisdiction over anyone regardless of their nationality.

They are concerned over the

Other member states expressed that it would be worthwhile to refer this topic to the International Law Commission as it is a body of experts, which can dedicate more time to take up this topic and produce a study to guide the working group of the Sixth Committee.

Madam Chair,

Myanmar delegation is of the view that the principle of universal jurisdiction is the most important means of ending impunity for those individuals who commit serious violations of international humanitarian law, and other crimes of international nature such as crime against humanity and genocide. In our view, those perpetrators of such heinous crimes should not go unpunished, and they must be held responsible. Delivering penalties to those individuals is the most effective way to bring justice to victims.

Madame Chair,

In Myanmar, the military staged an illegal coup in February 2021 under the pretext of election fraud allegations, detaining sitting President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, senior government members, activists and many others. When people of Myanmar have come out to the streets, and express their desire for democracy, freedom, and justice in line with their rights to freedom of speech and assembly, the military responded with use of live ammunitions against peaceful protestors, arbitrary detention of protestors without due process of law, torture, and enforced disappearance. Since the coup, almost 1,200 civilians

