

Interactive dialogue with SR on Human Rights in Myanmar

(September 27, 2006)

Statement by India

Mr. President, my delegation would like to thank the Special Rapporteur Mr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro for his Report on the human rights situation in Myanmar.

We have taken positive note of the fact that the Government of Myanmar has been engaging in a constructive dialogue with the UN system as evidenced by the recent visit of the Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs. There are ongoing discussions with the ILO for the establishment of a mechanism to handle the complaints of forced labour. The efforts of the Government of Myanmar to make the political reform process more inclusive and broad based also need to be encouraged.

Mr. President,

The promotion and protection of human rights has to be based on the principles of cooperation and genuine dialogue with the aim of strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations. My delegation would like to reiterate our opposition to using country-specific resolutions as these are counter-productive and usually have a negative outcome. They run contrary to the spirit of dialogue and cooperation, which, we believe, should inform the work of the Human Rights Council.

Thank You.

*Adopted against the wishes of the country concerned*