



STATEMENTS BY THE HR/VP

Statement by HR/VP Federica Mogherini on the signing of a bilateral repatriation agreement between the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh

Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the signing of a bilateral repatriation agreement between the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh

The signing of the repatriation agreement today in Nay Pyi Taw is an important and welcomed step towards addressing one of the worst humanitarian and human rights crises of our times.

Earlier this week in my talks in Dacca with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, and in Nay Pyi Taw with the State Counsellor of Myanmar, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, I encouraged both countries to reach a swift conclusion of a bilateral repatriation agreement as a matter of urgency. I am pleased to see that their commitment has brought them to achieving this important result.

We now expect the agreement signed today to be implemented without delay, and Myanmar to create the conditions on the ground that will allow for a voluntary, safe and dignified return of the refugees to their places of origin. The European Union will monitor with attention its implementation in full compliance with international law, and reiterates its call for full and unconditional humanitarian access without delay,

The European Union has been fully mobilised politically and through extensive humanitarian assistance to help find a sustainable solution to this crisis and is ready to further support the two countries in this process. In this context we also look forward to the swift implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State.

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