

Myanmar authorities must adhere to its obligation under International Humanitarian Law

October 28, 2020 Washington D.C, United State

The International Campaign for Arakan (ICA) condemned widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Myanmar authorities, as well as the Tatmadaw (Army) and call on all parties to immediately end such violations in Arakan State (Rakhine).

According to local news, on October 28, 2020, ICRC has confirmed that Tatmadaw was responsible for the grewsome attacks on the vessel carrying humanitarian supply from Sittwe to Rathedaung Township. The ambush caused the destruction of the vessel and it led to the death of one person and three people sustained severe injuries.

This horrific attack by Myanmar threatens humanitarian aid targeted for Arakanse. Approximately 300,000 IDPs are in dire need of basic food and medical supplies, the majority of which are women and children. With "grave concern" without urgent humanitarian action, their lives will be at risk.

We call on the United Nations and its Member States to take immediate steps to facilitate the expansion of humanitarian relief operations and to swiftly investigate actions which are tantamount to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

We are deeply concerned about the conflict which has a destabilizing impact on the entire State. The consequences of these attacks cause the needless loss of lives of innocent people and undermines the ability for people to have access to food and the basic needs for their survival.

International Campaign for Arakan (ICA) also urges the government of Myanmar to be accountable for these senseless attacks and to swiftly comply with the United Nations' humanitarian law.

International Campaign for Arakan (ICA)

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