



**28 March 2022**

**Ms. Mary Lawlor**

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

**Ms. Irene Khan**

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the rights to freedom of opinion and expression

**Mr. Felipe González Morales**

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

**Mr. Fernand de Varennes**

Special Rapporteur on minority issues

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the Joint Communication bearing reference No. AL MYS 8/2021 of 3 December 2021.

2. Malaysia has always been a strong advocate of the Rohingya cause. We have consistently underlined that the plight of the Rohingyas can only be resolved through a lasting and sustainable solution to the Rakhine problem. Malaysia has been and will continue working with ASEAN, Human Rights Council and other partners, towards this end.

3. Malaysia continues to host and provide protection and assistance to asylum seekers and refugees in Malaysia, based on humanitarian grounds, in line with the principles espoused in relevant international documents such as the Global Compact on

Refugee. The Government of Malaysia has also been working closely with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Kuala Lumpur on several pertinent issues concerning management of refugees and asylum seekers in Malaysia.

4. Malaysia has contributed in whatever way it can, towards humanitarian assistance to the displaced Rohingyas. Within ASEAN, Malaysia shelters the largest number of displaced Rohingyas. Our commitment to this issue has been witnessed by many including the High Commissioner for Human Rights and High Commissioner for Refugees who have visited Malaysia in recent years. In fact, the High Commissioner for Human Rights acknowledged Malaysia's contribution when she visited an Alternative Learning Centre (ALC) for Rohingya refugees.

5. Pertaining to the case that have been cited in the above-mentioned Joint Communication, the relevant Malaysian authorities have taken the appropriate measures by investigating the alleged death threats, harassment and intimidation received by Mr. Zafar Ahmad Abdul Ghani and his family. An investigation was conducted by the Royal Malaysia Police under the Section 233 of Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission Act (1998). The investigation findings were then referred to the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia and based upon available evidence, the case is classified as NFA (No Further Action). The case may be reopened should new evidence become available.

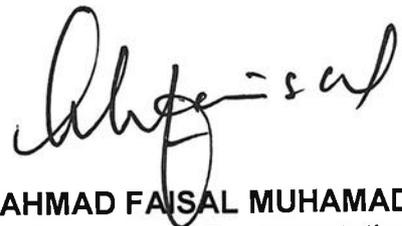
6. Malaysia upholds the freedom of speech and opinion. However, such freedoms and rights must be exercised responsibly and with accountability. There is no restriction on any individuals who wish to express themselves within the ambit and limitations of the law to ensure that public speeches and expressions of opinions do not transgress societal norms, incite hate or threaten peace and stability.

7. In thanking the Human Rights Council's Special Procedures Mandate Holders for the understanding and cooperation, I express my sincere hope that the above response from the Government of Malaysia will be fully taken into consideration.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Thank you.

*Yours Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ahmad Faisal Muhamad', written in a cursive style.

**AHMAD FAISAL MUHAMAD**  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative