

Anglais 2-2

Réunion : Assemblée Générale /Conseil de Sécurité - Reconstitué à partir de 3 discours

Date : 18/07/22

Durée : 8.24

Orateur : Représentant du Bangladesh

Difficulté : niveau 2

Introduction : Un représentant du Bangladesh prend la parole au cours d'une réunion organisée à l'ONU par le Canada. Il évoque les Rohingyas, venus du Myanmar et réfugiés au Bangladesh. Il détaille leurs conditions de vie à Cox's Bazar, l'un des principaux camps de réfugiés Rohingyas dans le pays.

Éléments à fournir (vocabulaire) :

Cox's Bazar	Camp de réfugiés Rohingyas au Bangladesh
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Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

My Dear Rohingya Sisters and Friends,

I thank the Permanent Mission of Canada for organizing today's event and for inviting me to make a few remarks. I am grateful to you for not forgetting the Rohingya women.

I am also very pleased to see with us today Rohingya women activists and leaders. I am really looking forward to hearing what they have to share about their experience and expectations.

Excellencies, Dear Friends,

In August 2017, the world witnessed what was the beginning of the history's largest and fastest exodus, with hundreds and thousands of Rohingya minorities fleeing their burning homes in Myanmar. Over 750,000 Rohingya – including more than 400,000 children – entered Bangladesh seeking shelter and protection in a few weeks' time through a border that stretches only 41 kilometres.

The Rohingya Muslims taking shelter in Bangladesh due to persecution in their own land Myanmar, has been a phenomenon since 1978. However, since 2017, following the horrific clearance operations in Rakhine, which caused one

of the largest and fastest forced displacement in recent history, the gravity of the situation changed dramatically.

Within a blink of an eye, Cox's Bazar, which used to be a forest roamed by the elephants, became the house of the world's largest refugee camp. With the caseload from previous exoduses, currently 1.2 million Rohingya minorities leave in the camps in Bangladesh.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Bangladesh is an overpopulated country with a density of 3,277 people per square kilometre. It is worse for Cox's Bazaar, which, apart from being one of the most impoverished parts of our country, is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change.

The humanitarian operations in Cox's Bazaar are also one of the largest in terms of scale and dimensions. And the situation there is further complicated due to scarcity of land and the impact on our local population in that part of the country. We would appreciate more recognition for the challenges that we face in hosting such a large population. I would like to humbly remind that it was resource constrained Bangladesh that opened its borders when others closed theirs in the region to the fleeing thousands.

Presence of such a large number of displaced people in Cox's Bazar for a long time is therefore completely untenable. Which is why, while we provided

shelter to the fleeing Rohingyas out of humanitarian consideration, they were always meant to return to Myanmar. To that end, we have taken multi-pronged diplomatic efforts – both at the bilateral and multilateral fronts with a view to improving the conditions in Myanmar and facilitating their safe, voluntary and sustainable return.

We deeply regret that the situation in Myanmar continues to deteriorate. Not a single Rohingya has been able to return in the last five years. The Rohingyas left in Myanmar are also faced with continued persecution and threats of displacement.

Excellencies, Dear Friends,

More than 50 percent of the Rohingyas sheltered in Bangladesh are women and one in six families is headed by a single mother. Due to cultural norms, Rohingya women have not traditionally taken the leading role in the family. Moreover, most of these women experienced unimaginable trauma due to sexual violence and deaths of family members in the 2017 purge.

As the host of this huge number of traumatized women, we are aware of, and sensitive to the special needs of the Rohingya women. Our Ministry of Women and Children Affairs has undertaken several projects with the help of UN agencies and NGOs to create women friendly space and environment in the

camps, and also extended psycho-social support to them. Adolescent girls receive menstrual hygiene products, known as 'dignity kits'.

Excellencies,

You would agree that all these efforts on our side of the border, however efficient they are, would not bring about any lasting solution to the problem. Keeping refugees in the camps in Cox's Bazaar forever will not give them the future they deserve. Their future lies in their own country, Myanmar.

Unfortunately, the situation in Myanmar has not changed since they fled. In fact, it has taken a turn for the worse after the military takeover in February 2021. Since then, what is worrying is the waning interest in the international community to the Rohingya crisis. This doesn't help the Rohingyas at all. The coup appears to have put on hold efforts to find a solution to the crisis. The Rohingyas need a safe, secure and dignified environment in Myanmar to return to, as the rightful citizens of their country, and to be given the opportunity to contribute to long-term peace and development of Myanmar.

Let us not forget that the Rohingya crisis is a political problem with humanitarian implications. While we do our best to ensure their empowerment through humanitarian assistance and response plans, the ultimate solution lies in the legal-political and structural reforms in Myanmar. They need recognition of their existence and strength, and they need access to fundamental rights

entitled to all human beings and citizens of that country. And it is the responsibility of Myanmar to ensure that.

We cannot let Myanmar get away denying these basic rights and perpetrating atrocities against the Rohingyas. The military coup must not detract attention from these fundamental issues of state responsibility. There can be no lasting peace and stability without addressing these fundamental issues in the first place.

I will conclude by reiterating that we remain committed to protecting the Rohingyas who have taken shelter in our country; and we will work with the international community to finding a durable solution to the Rohingya crisis through their early, safe and dignified return back to their homeland Myanmar.

I thank you.

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