



## **Timeline of International Response to the Situation of the Rohingya and Anti-Muslim Violence in Burma/Myanmar**

This timeline provides a chronological list of important responses and actions from national and international actors since anti-Muslim violence erupted in June 2012.

Skip to: [\[2013\]](#) [\[2014\]](#) [\[2015\]](#) [\[2016\]](#) [\[Most Recent\]](#)

### **Acronyms**

AIPMC – ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Myanmar Caucus  
APHR – ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights  
ASEAN – Association of Southeast Asian Nations  
EU – European Union  
HRC – Human Rights Council  
MSF – Médecins Sans Frontières  
OCHA – Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs  
OIC – Organization of Islamic Cooperation  
UN – United Nations  
UNDP – UN Development Programme  
UNFPA – UN Population Fund  
UNGA – UN General Assembly  
UNHCHR – UN High Commissioner for Human Rights  
UNHCR – UN High Commissioner for Refugees  
UNSG – UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon  
US – United States

## June 2012

10 June

- **President Thein Sein** declares a state of emergency in Arakan/Rakhine state after deadly clashes between Buddhists and ethnic Rohingya Muslims, killing at least 88 people and displacing over 90,000.

11 June

- **OIC Secretary-General Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu** expresses grave concern over and condemns violence against Rohingyas in Arakan/Rakhine state. ([Statement](#))

## July 2012

12 July

- **President Thein Sein** tells the UNHCR that the government will take responsibility for its own ethnic nationalities, but it is “not at all possible to recognize the illegal border-crossing Rohingyas who are not our ethnicity.” He says the Rohingyas pose a threat to national security and that they should be resettled in any third country that is “willing to take them.”

15 July

- **OIC Secretary-General Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu** condemns renewed repression and human rights violations against Rohingya Muslims, as well as the government’s continued persecution and discrimination against them. ([Statement](#))

27 July

- **UNHCHR Navi Pillay** expresses concern over reports of human rights violations committed by security forces in Arakan/Rakhine state against Muslims, particularly Rohingyas, and calls for a prompt, independent investigation. She calls upon national leaders to speak out against discrimination, the exclusion of minorities and racist attitudes. ([Statement](#))

## August 2012

4 August

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar, Tomás Ojea Quintana, concludes six-day visit to Burma/Myanmar, reporting that the country “continues to grapple with serious human rights challenges,” particularly in Arakan/Rakhine state. He calls for an independent investigation into allegations of human rights abuses and excessive use of force by security and police in response to the June violence. ([Statement](#))

6 August

- **UNSG’s Special Adviser for Myanmar** Vijay Nambiar and the **UNHCHR**, Navi Pillay, call for an impartial investigation into the violence in Arakan/Rakhine state.

## September 2012

25 September

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a report on the human rights situation, saying the country continues to grapple with serious human rights challenges. ([Report](#))

29 September

- **UNSG** meets with President Thein Sein to discuss the situations in Kachin and Arakan/Rakhine states. President Thein Sein commits to addressing root causes of the violence in Arakan/Rakhine state.

## October 2012

18 October

- Buddhist monks gather at the All-Arakanese Monks' Solidarity Conference, calling for Rohingya "sympathizers," including those advocating for the protection of their human rights, as "national traitors."

21 October

- Sectarian violence reignites across nine townships in Arakan/Rakhine state, displacing another 35,000 people, mostly Muslims.

25 October

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar expresses his concern over continuing violence in Arakan/Rakhine state. He calls upon the government to prevent further violence and engage in dialogue to resolve longstanding concerns, including the "endemic discrimination against the Rohingya community." ([Press Conference Statement](#))

27 October

- **OIC** condemns renewed violence against Rohingya Muslims urges the government of Burma/Myanmar to "deploy concrete measures to put an end to the aggressive acts against Muslims," ensure their safety, and bring perpetrators to justice. ([Statement](#))

30 October

- **ASEAN Secretary-General** Surin Pitsuwan reports that the government of Burma/Myanmar has rejected an offer by ASEAN to open tripartite talks between ASEAN, the UN, and the government aimed at quelling the violence in Arakan/Rakhine state. ([Source](#))

31 October

- **UN experts** on Myanmar, Minority Issues and Internally Displaced Persons release a statement expressing deep concern over continuing inter-communal violence in Arakan/Rakhine state and reminding the government of its obligation to protect those affected by violence, particularly the Rohingya Muslims. ([Statement](#))

## November 2012

9 November

- **UNHCHR** Navi Pillay calls upon the government of Burma/Myanmar to review the 1982 Citizenship Law, which rendered Rohingya Muslims stateless, “to ensure that Rohingya have equal access to citizenship.”

19 November

- **US President** Barack Obama meets with President Thein Sein and Aung San Suu Kyi, becoming the first sitting US president to visit Burma/Myanmar.

26 November

- **UNGA** adopts a resolution on the human rights situation in Burma/Myanmar, expressing concern about ongoing violations, and calling upon the government “to address the continuing armed conflict in Kachin State and the outbreak of deadly violence in Rakhine State, and the discrimination and human rights violations affecting ethnic minorities, especially the Rohingya.” ([Resolution](#))

28 November

- **AIPMC** releases a statement welcoming the 26 November UNGA resolution and warning that the government’s refusal to recognize the Rohingya could exacerbate inter-communal tensions and the spread of violence.

## December 2012

24 December

- **UNGA** adopts a resolution expressing concern about violence in Kachin and Arakan/Rakhine state, and the situation of Rohingyas, and calling upon the government to accelerate its effort to address discrimination, human rights violations, and violence affecting various ethnic minorities, and to take all necessary actions to protect civilians. ([Resolution](#))

## January 2013

27 January

- **World Bank** announces that Burma/Myanmar’s arrears to the World Bank and Asian Development Bank have been cleared with the help of the Japanese government, and approves a \$440 million credit to the country. The Asian Development Bank grants a \$512 million credit.

## February 2013

16 February

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a statement at the conclusion of a five-day visit to the country, saying there are significant human rights shortcomings and a gap between reforms at the top and implementation on the ground. He calls upon the government and armed groups to ensure the protection of civilians in Kachin state, and urges the government to remove discriminatory regulations imposed upon Rohingya. ([Statement](#))

## March 2013

19 March

- **UN HRC** adopts a resolution urging the government to ensure accountability for those responsible for violence in Arakan/Rakhine state, facilitate effective humanitarian assistance and end discrimination against Rohingya. ([Resolution](#))

20 March

- Inter-communal violence between Buddhists and Muslims engulfs the town of Meikhtila, in central Mandalay, and sweeps through several other regions, killing at least 40 and displacing another 12,000.

22 March

- President Thein Sein declares a state of emergency in Meikhtila.

25 March

- **UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide**, Adama Dieng, releases a statement expressing concern over increased violence in Meikhtila. He warns of the considerable risk of further violence unless the government implements measures to prevent escalation and protect populations at risk. ([Statement](#))

28 March

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on human rights in Myanmar expresses concern over the spread of violence between Muslim and Buddhist communities and calls upon the government to take immediate action to stop it from spreading. He says the government has not done enough to address the spread of discrimination and prejudice against Muslim communities. ([Statement](#))

## April 2013

2 April

- **AIPMC** expresses concern over violence between Buddhists and Muslim communities and urges the government of Burma/Myanmar to work to end discrimination and combat intolerance among religious groups in order to avoid further violence. ([Press Release](#))

14 April

- **OIC Contact Group on Rohingya Muslim Minority**<sup>1</sup> convenes at the Ministerial level in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, condemning the spread of anti-Muslim violence in Burma/Myanmar, including atrocities committed against Rohingyas, and calling upon the government to ensure Buddhist extremists put an end to the use of force and violence. ([Final Communiqué](#))

17 April

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the situation of human rights in Myanmar releases a report welcoming progress being made by the Government of Burma/Myanmar, but expresses deep concern over the situation in Rakhine State, discrimination against Rohingyas, and the ongoing human rights violations in Kachin State. He says that government reforms are not meeting international human rights standards. ([Report](#))

22 April

- **EU** lifts all sanctions against Burma/Myanmar with the exception of the arms embargo and the embargo on equipment which might be used for internal repression. ([Document](#))

23 April

- **Human Rights Watch** releases a report after an investigation into the role of the central government and local authorities during the June and October 2012 violence in Arakan/Rakhine state, finding that “the criminal acts committed against the Rohingya and Kaman Muslim communities in Arakan State beginning in June 2012 amount to crimes against humanity carried out as part of a campaign of ethnic cleansing.” ([Report](#))

29 April

- **Rakhine State Conflicts Investigation Commission** releases its report on the June and October 2012 sectarian violence, calling upon the government to increase humanitarian support to displacement camps and ensure that the human rights of all groups are protected. The report recommends the increased presence of security forces in the area. ([Report summary and recommendations](#))

## May 2013

1 May

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on human rights in Myanmar welcomes the report of the Rakhine Investigation Commission but expresses concern over the lack of recommendations to address impunity and ensure investigations into the widespread human rights violations targeting Muslims in Arakan/Rakhine state. ([Statement](#))

2 May

- **US President** Barack Obama extends current US sanctions against Burma/Myanmar for one year, while lifting the 1996 visa ban. ([Document](#))

---

<sup>1</sup> The OIC Contact Group on the Rohingya includes Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Bangladesh, Djibouti, Turkey, Afghanistan, and the United Arab Emirates.

20 May

- Government authorities in Maungdaw District, Arakan/Rakhine state impose a two-child limit on Rohingya families.

22 May

- Burma/Myanmar's Parliament extends the state of emergency in Meikhtila for 60 days.
- **AIPMC** expresses its support for a resolution drafted by OIC members on anti-Muslim violence and human rights issues in Burma/Myanmar to be brought before the UN HRC. ([Press Release](#))

26 May

- **Japan** grants a loan of \$504 million, the first loan to Burma/Myanmar in 26 years, and cancels the remainder of the country's debt, saying that the Japanese government backs the progress of Burma/Myanmar's reforms.

28 May

- Anti-Muslim violence breaks out in Lashio, Shan state. Buddhist rioters destroy a mosque, orphanage and Muslim-owned businesses, displacing at least 1,400 Muslims.

31 May

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the situation of human rights in Myanmar calls upon Burma/Myanmar's Central Government to respond to the revival of the local order limiting Rohingya families to two children, saying the order "is a clear-cut human rights violation targeting a particular ethnic and religious group." ([Statement](#))
- **EU** appoints Roland Kobia as Head of the EU Delegation to Burma/Myanmar, the EU's first ambassador to the country. ([Statement](#))

## June 2013

13 June

- **EU** adopts a resolution condemning the grave violations of human rights and the violence perpetrated against Rohingya Muslims and urging the government to ensure the protection of Rohingya and to authorize the establishment of a UN human rights office within the country to allow for adequate monitoring of the human rights situation. ([Resolution](#))

14 June

- **UN HRC** expresses deep concern at the gross violations of human rights in Burma/Myanmar, in particular against Rohingya and other Muslims in Arakan/Rakhine state, urging the government to take immediate measure to end all acts of violence and to grant full citizenship rights to Rohingya. ([Presidential Statement](#))
- Buddhist monks meet at a Buddhist leaders' conference in Yangon and propose an interfaith marriage law to impose restrictions on Buddhist women seeking to marry a Muslim man,

including making it necessary to obtain permission from authorities and for the Muslim man to convert to Buddhism.

17 June

- **UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar** Ashok Nigam reports that 140,000 people remain displaced since the June and October 2012 violence in Arakan/Rakhine state which caused the death of 167 people and destroyed over 10,000 buildings. He calls upon the government to address the citizenship status of stateless Muslims. ([Statement](#))

19 June

- **UNHCHR** Navi Pillay calls upon the government of Burma/Myanmar to tackle the continuing discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities, saying “the ongoing human rights violations against the Rohingya community in Rakhine State, and the spread of anti-Muslim sentiment across the State and beyond, is threatening the reform process and requires focused attention from the Government.” ([Statement](#))

## July 2013

1 July

- **Malaysia** urges Burma/Myanmar to take stronger action to prevent the persecution of Muslims.

7 July

- **OIC Secretary-General** Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu urges the government of Burma/Myanmar to assume its responsibility to eradicate all incitement and discrimination against Muslims, including the law limiting Rohingya families to two children. ([Statement](#))

11 July

- **Indonesia** urges Burma/Myanmar to address the citizenship status of Rohingya Muslims so they have access to the same legal rights as “the rest of their countrymen.”

14 July

- **President Thein Sein** announces the disbandment of the border security force, NaSaKa, which was long-accused of committing grave human rights violations against the Rohingya, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrest and detention, and torture.

16 July

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar welcomes the abolition of the NaSaKa and urges authorities to hold accountable members of the force responsible for human rights abuses. ([Statement](#))

20 July

- **President Thein Sein** lifts the state of emergency in Meikhtila, saying the situation there has stabilized.

22 July

- **EU** adopts a Comprehensive Framework defining the EU's policy and support until 2015 to ongoing reforms in Burma/Myanmar, pledging to press the government to address the causes and prevent further outbreaks of inter-communal violence, ensure the accountability of all offenders, address the human rights and humanitarian needs of the populations in Arakan/Rakhine state, and address the welfare needs and status of the Rohingya. ([Comprehensive Framework](#))

## August 2013

13 August

- **UNHCHR** calls for peaceful dialogue between the government and Muslim IDPs in Arakan/Rakhine state after clashes on 9 August between Muslims and security forces left one dead and 10 injured. ([Briefing Notes](#))

19 August

- **UNSG** releases his annual report to the UNGA on the human rights situation in Myanmar, raising concern over human rights violations against the Rohingya and the plight of the wider Muslim community. He calls upon the government to address the issue of Rohingya citizenship and hold accountable those disseminating hate literature and killing innocent people. ([Report](#))

20 August

- **APHR** expresses concern over reports of inhumane conditions in which Thai authorities are holding Rohingya asylum seekers, as well as the lack of legal protections being offered to them, and calls upon Thailand to address these concerns and to ensure that Rohingya fleeing persecution in Burma/Myanmar are not forcibly returned. ([Statement](#))

21 August

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a statement at the conclusion of a ten-day visit to the country, saying that displaced Muslims in Rakhine state are still being denied fundamental human rights. He also describes his car being attacked by a crowd of around 200 people while police stood by, saying that the government failed to protect him. ([Statement](#))

22 August

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar warns about the need for reconciliation with ethnic groups and the spread of incitement of hatred against religious minority groups. ([Statement](#))

25 August

- Buddhist rioters burn down dozens of Muslim-owned homes and shops in Kanbalu, Sagaing Division.

26 August

- **APHR** says the government of Burma/Myanmar is not doing enough to reduce inter-communal tensions and prevent anti-Muslim violence, raising the prospect of widespread conflict. They call upon the government to protect those who have lost their homes as a result of ongoing violence and to ensure against the permanent segregation of Muslims. ([Statement](#))

## October 2013

1 October

- Inter-communal violence that began on 29 September in Thandwe spreads to several other villages in Arakan/Rakhine state. Reports suggest at least 480 people were displaced, while at least 5 people were killed and 110 homes, mostly belonging to Muslims, were burned down.

3 October

- **President Thein Sein** says the government will use all means, without discrimination on the ground of race and religion, to restore peace and stability and ensure the rule of law in Arakan/Rakhine state. ([Statement](#))

6 October

- **UN OCHA** publishes findings of its two-day assessment mission to Thandwe, Arakan/Rakhine state, reporting that protection concerns continue to restrict villagers' freedom of movement and calling upon the government to provide security and hold accountable those responsible for violence. ([Report](#))

18 October

- **APHR** calls upon European Parliamentarians and Aung San Suu Kyi to place the anti-Muslim violence in Burma/Myanmar and discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities at the top of the agenda during her visit to Europe. ([Statement](#))

22 October

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a report on the human rights situation following his eighth mission to the country. He expresses his concern about the spread of anti-Muslim sentiment and says that in Arakan/Rakhine state there is "little evidence that the Government has taken steps to tackle the underlying causes of the communal violence." ([Report](#))

## November 2013

3 November

- A boat carrying over 70 Rohingya fleeing persecution at home capsizes off the coast of Sittwe, killing all but 8 passengers.

5 November

- **UNHCR** deplores the loss of life in the Rohingya boat tragedy, saying, “It is unacceptable that people are driven by such desperation into life-risking journeys.” ([Statement](#))

15 November

- **OIC** delegation visits Arakan/Rakhine state to investigate the situation of Rohingyas and meet with representatives of Buddhist and Muslim communities. Buddhist monks lead over 3,000 protestors in demonstrations against the delegation’s arrival.

19 November

- **UNGA 3rd Committee** passed a resolution on “the human rights situation in Myanmar,” urging the government to grant equal access to full citizenship for the Rohingya minority and to address the root causes of attacks against Muslim minorities elsewhere in the country. ([Resolution](#))

## **December 2013**

16 December

- **EU** welcomes the 19 November UNGA resolution and calls upon the government to address the underlying causes of inter-communal violence and the welfare needs of the Rohingya, promote religious and ethnic tolerance, and adopt a “zero tolerance approach to violence extremism.” ([Council Conclusions](#))

## **January 2014**

8 January

- **Japan** announces a \$96 million aid package to be used over the next five years for the development of infrastructure to improve living standards in war-torn ethnic areas of Burma/Myanmar.

9 January

- Eight Rohingya Muslim are attacked and killed by local residents in Du Chee Yar Tan village in Maungdaw Township, Arakan/Rakhine state.

10 January

- **UN** appoints Renata Lok-Dessallien as the new Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Representative in Myanmar. ([Press Release](#))

13 January

- After clashes between Buddhist and Rohingya residents in Du Chee Yar Tan village, a police sergeant is captured and killed by Rohingyas. That evening, Buddhist residents and police attack and kill at least 40 Rohingya men, women and children.

17 January

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar urges the government to conduct an independent investigation and clarify reports about Du Char Yar Tan clashes and hold perpetrators of human rights violations accountable. ([Press Release](#))

22 January

- **Chief Minister of Rakhine State**, U Hla Maung Tin, visits Du Chee Yar Tan village to investigate the violence and dismisses the “false news published and aired by foreign media that children and women were killed.” ([Statement](#))

23 January

- **UNHCHR** Navi Pillay urges the government to demonstrate transparency and accountability by conducting an investigation into the “credible reports” of clashes and deaths of Rohingyas. ([Statement](#))
- **UN Humanitarian Affairs Coordinator** Valerie Amos expresses concern about the violence and killing of civilians in Maungdaw Township, and calls upon the government to ensure the protection of all civilians, ensure humanitarian access to affected areas, and launch an impartial investigation into the events. ([Statement](#))

24 January

- **MSF** reports treating at least 22 patients that are believed to be victims of the violence in Du Chee Yar Tan and requests that the government “enable safe access to the affected population for humanitarian personnel and ensure the security of the civilian population in need of assistance.” ([Source](#))

26 January

- **World Bank** pledges \$2 billion in development aid to Burma/Myanmar to “[increase] support for the huge reform effort under way.” ([Press Release](#))

29 January

- **US Ambassador to the UN** Samantha Power, speaking at the UN Security Council open debate on War and the Search for Permanent Peace, highlights the “deep prejudice” against Rohingya which has left them “without citizenship, vulnerable, and marginalized.” She warns that the violence “poses grave risks” for Muslims and calls for an independent investigation into the events in Du Chee Yar Tan. ([Statement](#))

31 January

- **Norway** suspends a restriction on its sovereign wealth fund from buying bonds issued in Burma/Myanmar.

## February 2014

10 February

- **Germany** signs an agreement to reduce Burma/Myanmar's debt by 50 percent (over 500 million euros), as German President Joachim Gauck makes his first official visit to the country.

13 February

- **Thailand** announces it has deported around 1,300 Rohingya refugees since November 2013 back to Burma/Myanmar, blatantly violating international humanitarian law.

14 February

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar arrives in Arakan/Rakhine state for his last official visit before his mandate expires, and it met by protestors complaining of his sympathy to "Bengalis."

19 February

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar concludes his final visit to the country, raising concerns about the "campaigns to incite hatred against the Rohingya community," the ongoing segregation of Muslim communities, and impunity for perpetrators of anti-Muslims abuses and killings. ([Statement](#))

28 February

- **MSF** says it is "deeply shocked by this unilateral decision and extremely concerned about the fate of tens of thousands of patients currently under our care across the country" after the Government of Burma/Myanmar orders MSF to cease all activities in the country. ([Statement](#))

## March 2014

1 March

- **MSF** reports that after dialogue with the government, it will, on 3 March, resume part of its activities covered under the MoU, including operations in Kachin and Shan states, as well as Yangon region. However, it remains suspended from Arakan/Rakhine state. ([Statement](#))

11 March

- **Government Investigation Commission** releases its final report on the events in Du Chee Yar Tan village, finding "no evidence" of deaths and dismissing all allegations that anti-Rohingya violence occurred.

14 March

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases his final report, saying that there has been no "clear action at the State and Union level to address the widespread discrimination and human rights violations occurring" in Arakan/Rakhine state and that the pattern of "widespread and systematic human rights violations" committed

against Rohingya, in particular since the June 2012 violence, may amount to *crimes against humanity*. ([Report](#))

17 March

- **UN HRC** holds an interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteur Quintana, who reported that “while the transition was generally moving in the right direction, the complex situation in Rakhine state remained dire and the Rohingya community [...] continued to suffer systematic discrimination and human rights violations.” ([Press Release](#))

26 March

- Buddhist mobs begin two days of attacks on the offices and homes of international aid groups and UN agencies working in Sittwe, forcing over 120 international staff to temporarily flee the region
- **UN HRC** unanimously adopts a resolution on “the human rights situation in Myanmar,” extending the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one year, reiterating serious concern about the situation of the Rohingya and other minorities, and requests and independent investigation into all reported incidents of violence and abuses. ([Resolution](#))
- **Japan** announces a \$16 million contribution to support UN programs in Burma/Myanmar as part of a \$75.2 million aid package that will also fund government projects.
- **APHR** calls upon Burma/Myanmar’s legislators to vote down a proposed law that would place restrictions on interfaith marriage, calling the draft law “discriminatory” and “in direct conflict with international treaties on fundamental rights to liberty and religious beliefs.” ([Press Release](#)).

27 March

- **UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Myanmar** expresses deep concern about the attacks on UN and INGO premises in Sittwe and calls upon the government to ensure the protection of the humanitarian and development community in Arakan/Rakhine state, as well as to hold perpetrators accountable. ([Statement](#))
- **EU** expresses concern over the hostilities in Sittwe and calls upon all people to cooperate with authorities to restore the safety of relief workers. ([Statement](#))

28 March

- **UNFPA** says it is very concerned about mob attacks on aid workers in Sittwe and reports linking the riots to mounting tensions in Arakan/Rakhine state in relation to the upcoming census. UNFPA says the Burma/Myanmar government has committed to allowing everyone in the country to self-identify their ethnicity. ([Press Release](#))

30 March

- Burma/Myanmar begins conducting its first census since 1983 after suddenly announcing it will not deliver on its expressed commitment to allow self-identification of ethnicity and will not recognize “Rohingya” as an ethnic group.

31 March

- **UNSG** speaks with President Thein Sein via telephone, urging the government to ensure the safety and security of all humanitarian workers and stressing that impunity cannot be tolerated. ([Source](#))

## April 2014

1 April

- **UNFPA** expresses its concern over the government's decision not to allow census respondents to self-identify as Rohingya, calling it a "departure from international census standards, human rights principles and agreed procedures." ([Press Release](#))

2 April

- High-level UN mission composed of heads of several UN agencies in Burma/Myanmar meets with government officials to discuss a strategy for the safe return of humanitarian workers to Sittwe.
- **OCHA** reports that humanitarian operations in Arakan/Rakhine state have been "severely affected" by the disruption of assistance following the Sittwe attacks. ([Press Release](#))

7 April

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar raises concern over the further deterioration of the human rights situation in Arakan/Rakhine state, calling recent developments "the latest in a long history of discrimination and persecution against the Rohingya community which could amount to crimes against humanity." ([Press Release](#))

9 April

- **UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Myanmar** welcomes the government's response to the Sittwe attacks, including "the rapid establishment by the President of the Investigation Commission," and expresses concern over the disruption of life-saving services to IDPs in Arakan/Rakhine state. ([Statement](#))
- **UNFPA** says the country's census is nearly complete, with an estimated 90% of the population counted. Those excluded were Rohingyas in Arakan/Rakhine state and people in conflict areas controlled by the Kachin Independence Organization in Kachin state. ([Press Release](#))

10 April

- Burma/Myanmar completes the census.

25 April

- **UNSG** convenes the first meeting of the Partnership Group on Myanmar, including Burma/Myanmar's Minister of Immigration and Population Affairs, during which the UNSG and members states call upon the government to take "firm action" to curb incitement of violence and address the issue of citizenship for Rohingyas. ([Statement](#))

## May 2014

30 May

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar completes his six-year term, calling upon the government, as well as the international community, to urgently address the human rights situation in Arakan/Rakhine state, saying to do otherwise would “risk local and extremist groups taking complete control over the situation there,” compromise the democratic transition, and “ultimately mean the extermination of the Rohingyas.” ([Statement](#))

## June 2014

1 June

- **UN HRC** appoints Yanghee Lee as the new UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar.

10 June

- **UNHCR** says it is receiving increasing reports of abuse and exploitation of Rohingyas and other Muslims who flee Burma/Myanmar by boat to escape persecution and violence in Arakan/Rakhine state, estimating that over 86,000 people have fled on boats since June 2012, including 55,000 during 2013 and 15,000 between January and April 2014. ([Press Release](#))

13 June

- **UN Deputy Humanitarian Affairs Coordinator** Kyung-wha Kang calls for improved access to people in need of humanitarian assistance to IDPs in Arakan/Rakhine state, saying that the current capacity of the humanitarian community there is “still less than 60 percent of previous levels,” since the March attacks on aid workers. She called upon all parties to ensure the protection of civilians and full respect of IHL. ([Press Release](#))

20 June

- **Three UN Special Rapporteurs** on freedom of religion, minority issues, and the human rights situation in Myanmar call upon the government of Burma/Myanmar to discard a draft bill on “Religious Conversion,” warning that the bill may lead to discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities and “signals the risk of Myanmar going off-track on its path to being a responsible member of the international community that respects and protects human rights.” ([Press Release](#))

26 June

- **APHR** calls upon the government of Burma/Myanmar to immediately allow MSF and all humanitarian aid organizations to resume full scale operations and provide life-saving aid in Rakhine State, reporting that many Rohingya have died of preventable causes since the government banned MSF. APHR says the government “must uphold its international legal obligations to prevent genocide and carry out its responsibility to protect Rohingya.” ([Press Release](#))

## July 2014

1 July

- Two days of anti-Muslim attacks, during which Muslim-owned shops, homes and a mosque were ransacked and damaged, break out in Mandalay, leaving two people dead.

14 July

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, launches her first official visit to Burma/Myanmar. ([Press Release](#))

25 July

- **MSF** says it welcomes with cautious optimism the government's decision to allow MSF to resume operations in Arakan/Rakhine state, and that it is "critical" that the government allows unfettered access so that MSF begin working throughout the state. ([Statement](#))

28 July

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar urges the government to ensure against backtracking on progress, including to address the underlying causes of intercommunal violence and end the systematic discrimination against Rohingyas, including restrictions on their freedom of movement, access to land, food, water, education and health care, marriages and birth registration. ([Statement](#))

## August 2014

22 August

- **UNHCR** reports that some 87,000 people, mostly Rohingyas, fled from Arakan/Rakhine State by sea from the Bay of Bengal since the June 2012 outbreak of violence, during which at least 200 people died. ([Report](#))

25 August

- **UNSG's Special Adviser for Myanmar** Vijay Nambiar completes his eighth visit to the country, during which he visited Arakan/Rakhine state to see actions being taken to address underlying causes of violence. ([UN News Story](#))

## September 2014

11 September

- **UNDP Assistant Administrator** Haoliang Xu and **OCHA Director of Operations** John Ging conclude a two-day visit to Arakan/Rakhine State, saying that "the humanitarian situation is still unacceptably dire for far too many people," and urging "a just and equitable resolution to the citizenship issue." ([Statement](#))

26 September

- **UNSG** convenes the second Ministerial meeting of the Partnership Group on Myanmar, telling the group that he remains “deeply troubled by the communal situation in Rakhine and in other parts of the country,” and warning that “conditions of the vulnerable populations especially in the IDP camps remain precarious and unstable.” He urges the government to address the status and citizenship of the Rohingya. ([Statement](#))

## October 2014

29 October

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar addresses the UNGA, warning against signs of backtracking on Burma/Myanmar’s reform process, including the “profoundly disturbing” situation in Arakan/Rakhine state, where “restrictions on freedom of movement severely affect basic rights such as access to health services, livelihoods, water, food and sanitation,” and “the long history of discrimination against the community that identifies themselves as Rohingya further compounds human rights violations.” ([Statement](#))

## November 2014

12 November

- **UNSG** co-chairs the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual ASEAN-UN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, reporting to the press that during meetings with Burma/Myanmar officials, he expressed “concern about the Rohingya population, who face discrimination and violence,” and encouraged leaders to “uphold human rights, take a strong stance against incitement and ensure humanitarian access to Rohingya living in vulnerable conditions.” ([Statement](#))

13 November

- **US President** Obama tells press during the East Asia Summit in Nay Pyi Taw that the US “would like to see a new plan that will allow the Rohingya to become citizens through a normal process without having to do that type of self-identification.”

21 November

- **UNGA**’s Third Committee UN General adopts a resolution expressing serious concern about the situation of the Rohingya and calling upon the government of Burma/Myanmar to allow freedom of movement, grant equal access to full citizenship, and allow self-identification for the Rohingya. ([Resolution](#))

## December 2014

29 December

- **UNGA** adopts the 21 November Third Committee resolution.

## January 2015

16 January

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a statement following her visit to the country from 7 to 16 January, reporting on the “severe curtailment of the rights” of Muslim IDPs in detention, with “limited access to essential services.” She reiterates that the government should allow “equal access to full citizenship for the Rohingya minority.” ([Statement](#))

## March 2015

16 March

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar addresses the HRC, saying that discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities continues, fueling conflict, while the situation in Arakan/Rakhine state “remains dire,” with “abysmal” conditions in Muslim IDP camps. ([Statement](#))

18 March

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar calls upon the government to “find meaningful ways to improve the human rights of all in Rakhine state.” ([Statement](#))

23 March

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a report to the HRC, finding “signs of backtracking by the Government and increasing concerns over discrimination and ethnic conflict.” ([Report](#))

27 March

- **HRC** adopts a resolution reiterates its serious concern about the situation of the Rohingya to ensure their equal access to full citizenship and related rights. ([Resolution](#))

31 March

- Burma/Myanmar invalidates the identification cards (“white cards”) held by many Rohingyas, forcing them to apply for citizenship as “Bengalis,” suggesting their illegal migration from Bangladesh.

## April 2015

24 April

- **UNSG** convenes meeting of his Partnership Group on Myanmar, reiterating his call for the establishment of an OHCHR office with a full mandate. Member states emphasize the need for the government of Burma/Myanmar to address citizenship issues. ([Statement](#))

## May 2015

15 May

- **UNHCHR** Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein released a statement calling upon regional governments to take swift action to protect the lives of the estimated 6,000 Rohingya and Bangladeshi migrants stranded at sea, noting that “until the Myanmar Government addresses the institutional discrimination against the Rohingya population, including equal access to citizenship, this precarious migration will continue.” ([Statement](#))

19 May

- **UNHCR, UNHCHR, International Organization for Migration, and UN SRSG for International Migration and Development** release a statement urging the leaders of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand to protect migrants and refugees stranded on vessels in the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea, to facilitate safe disembarkation, and to give priority to saving lives, protecting rights, and respecting human dignity. ([Statement](#))

27 May

- **Five UN Special Rapporteurs** release a statement expressing alarm at the enactment of the Population Control Healthcare Bill, the first of four so-called “Protection of Race and Religion” bills, saying the bills “particularly discriminate against ethnic and religious minorities and have the potential to fuel existing tensions in the country.” ([Statement](#))

29 May

- **Archbishop Desmond Tutu** warns of a “slow genocide being committed against the Rohingya people.” ([Op-Ed](#))

## July 2015

3 July

- **HRC** adopts a resolution condemning the systematic gross violations of human rights and abuses committed against Rohingyas, urging the government of Burma/Myanmar to grant the Rohingya citizenship and address the spread of discrimination and prejudice against Muslims. ([Resolution](#))

## August 2015

7 August

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar concludes her third visit to the country, reporting that the disenfranchisement of Rohingyas “is an issue that must be seen against the backdrop of institutionalized discrimination against the Muslim population in Rakhine State.” ([Statement](#))

11 August

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar expresses concern over the disenfranchisement of Rohingyas and urges the government to “do more to combat hate speech and incitement to violence.” ([Statement](#))

## October 2015

6 October

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar releases a report to the UNGA, finding “no major improvement in the human rights concerns previously highlighted, in particular the long-standing and institutionalized discrimination against the Rohingya community.” ([Report](#))

16 October

- **APHR** releases a report warning that the region risks another major refugee crisis as a result of the persecution of the Rohingya, urging the Burma/Myanmar government and ASEAN states to address the situation. ([Report](#))

28 October

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar delivers a statement to the UNGA, expressing concern about the situation of the Rohingya, in particular their disenfranchisement by the government of Burma/Myanmar and “the long-standing and institutionalized discrimination” against them. ([Statement](#))

29 October

- **UN Special Rapporteur** on the human rights situation in Myanmar calls upon the authorities in Burma/Myanmar to “ensure that respect for the human rights must be at the core of the historic elections” on 8 November. ([Statement](#))

## November 2015

4 November

- **UN Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect** release a statement on the upcoming elections in Burma/Myanmar, expressing concern that the electoral process has resulted in “further marginalization of religious minorities,” highlighting “decades of institutionalized discrimination in law, policies and practice” against Rohingyas. ([Statement](#))

8 November

- Burma/Myanmar holds its first general elections since 1990.

## December 2015

23 December

- **UNGA** adopts a resolution reiterating its serious concern about the situation of the Rohingya “and of other minorities subject to marginalization and instances of human rights violations and abuses.” The resolution called upon the government of Burma/Myanmar to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals, including Rohingyas, and to ensure equal their access to full citizenship. ([Resolution](#))

## February 2016

23 February

- **UNHCR** reports that some 2,000 people, mostly Rohingya Muslims, died trying to cross the Bay of Bengal since 2012. ([Report](#))

## March 2016

1 March

- **OCHA Director of Operations**, John Ging, briefed the media following his visit to Burma/Myanmar from 22 to 25 February, reporting on the “appalling sanitation conditions” in Rohingya displacement camps. He appeals for an end to the “discriminatory and repugnant policies” of segregation and disenfranchisement. (Press [Release](#))