Press Releases: Attacks in Rakhine State and Release of the Rakhine Advisory Commission Report

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The United States strongly condemns deadly attacks on security forces in Burma's northern Rakhine State. We extend our condolences to the victims and their families. As government and security forces act to prevent further violence and bring those responsible for the attacks to justice, we expect them to do so in a way that is consistent with the rule of law, protects and respects human rights and fundamental freedoms, demonstrates transparency, and avoids inflaming a tense situation. We urge all in Burma, including in Rakhine State, to work toward peace and stability through their words and actions.

These attacks and the continuing challenges in Rakhine State underscore the importance of implementing the recommendations in the final report of the Kofi Annan-led Rakhine Advisory Commission released on August 24. We welcome the release of the report, as well as the Burmese government's commitment to review and carry out the recommendations as quickly as possible. The United States has offered its support to the government as it works to address the long-term challenges addressed in the Commission's report, including poverty, underdevelopment, shortcomings in government services and access to justice, and the need for improved security and better treatment of local populations, including ensuring a credible, transparent citizenship process for all people in Rakhine and lifting restrictions on freedom of movement.

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