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COMMITTEE: Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)  
AGENDA ITEM: Governmental Stabilization after the Bangladesh Political Crisis

People's Republic of Bangladesh had a very intense history full of economic, political and social problems, such as the protests that toppled Bangladesh's PM, and the strike from Bangladesh’s opposition party, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). Both events have led to the rise of todays agenda item, the need for Governmental Stabilization after the Bangladesh Political Crisis. Bangladesh consists of two major political parties, the Awami League (AL), which is the secular left-wing political party that is currently in power in Bangladesh, and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) which is a political party that focuses more on Islamic and national unity. The rivalry between these two political parties has led to some extremist supporters seeking violence and leading street protests after claiming that the elections and polls done by the government can’t be trusted. (1) The BNP has become the country’s largest political force. It is widely seen as the government in waiting. Many in Bangladesh are unnerved by this prospect, however. When in power in the past – particularly in the early 2000s – the BNP has often exhibited similar autocratic tendencies to the Awami League (AL) – a major concern for the interim government and its supporters, given that its reforms aim to prevent the country from slipping back into authoritarian rule. One of the main causes other than the anti-democratic claims were of dissatisfaction with Hasina’s, the leader of the Awami League’s government was its mismanagement of the economy, including rampant corruption and her cronies’ looting of the financial sector, which has left at least ten banks “technically bankrupt”, according to a government inquiry. (2)As Hungary, as a nation among the first countries to recognize Bangladesh's independence in 1971, we believe that Bangladesh’s democracy can be protected in peaceful ways, and we support a Bangladesh that cares about all its population.

In response to the political crisis and ongoing protests in Bangladesh, various international organizations and corporations have taken actions ranging from aiding money, issuing statements to adjusting operations, such as Action Aid. ActionAid is a global federation working withmore than 41 million people living in more than 71 of the world’s poorest countries, including People's Republic of Bangladesh. ActionAid stands in solidarity with the young people in Bangladesh who have courageously raised their voices in the fight for rights and justice. (3)European Investment Bank (EIB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank have loaned more than 11 billion dollars to Bangladesh for investments in infrastructure and reduction of pollution. Also, the United Nationschief affirmed solidarity with Bangladesh amid political transition. “I am particularly pleased to be in Bangladesh at this important moment in your national journey,” Mr. Guterres said, acknowledging the leadership of Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus and the hopes of the Bangladeshi people for greater democracy, justice and prosperity. (4)

As Hungary, we support Bangladesh's efforts toward governmental stabilization following the political crisis. Hungary and Bangladesh have developed a robust partnership characterized by mutual respect and cooperation, and we don’t seek to destroy that partnership, no matter what happens in Bangladesh. Our recent engagements include the opening of a full-fledged Hungarian consular office in Dhaka and the signing of memoranda of understanding to enhance cooperation in areas such as education, energy, and trade. Hungary views Bangladesh as one of the fastest-growing economies in the world and a valuable partner in the emerging global economic order. The two countries have explored opportunities for Hungarian businesses in Bangladesh, particularly in sectors like water management, agriculture, and pharmaceuticals.​ (5) In our opinion, the people’s opinion is what matters most in a nation, and we hope for a peaceful resolution of this problem of governmental instability. We believe that a totally equal election should be organized, and the Bangladeshi people should choose the fate of their nation in a equal environment.

In order to bring stability to Bangladesh after the political crisis, judicial independence needs to be ensured, non-governmental organizations should handle human rights topics, and the election system must be more trustworthy by implementing trust in every sector of the government. Judicial independence can be ensured by the abolition of the dual governance system. Currently, the joint authority of the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Law undermines judicial autonomy which in turn damages the country’s democracy and the country as a whole. (6) Getting NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations) more effectively involved in handling human rights issues—especially in a politically sensitive context like Bangladesh is very important as trustworthy NGOs can ensure that the population of the country and the political opposition can feel safe without needing to resort to violence or boycotts. Implementing trust in every sector of the government ensures that the country’s democracy is secure, and by making the people understand this, a democracy can live for a very long time as the people know how holy a democracy actually is to the nation.

References:

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