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Mr. Chair,

First of all, On behalf of Myanmar delegation, I would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciations to you for your able leadership at the meeting as a Chair. I would like to express our country's activities regarding the macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and inclusive development.

As Myanmar is an Agro-based country, 70% of the total populations are in rural area. Agriculture has a crucial role to play in ensuring food security in Myanmar as well as in securing in livelihood for much of the population in order to contribute to poverty reduction, rural development.

Poverty rate of Myanmar has decreased from 32% to 26%. However, poverty rate must be reduced by half in a period between 1990 and 2015. This is why Myanmar's poverty rate must be reduced by 16% by 2014-2015.

With a view to improving the socio-economic life of the rural people and alleviating poverty, a **National Level Workshop on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation** workshop was held in Nay Pyi Taw on 20 May 2011. Myanmar government organized the Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Central Committee and our President HE U Thein Sein is the Chairman of the said Committee. In order to implement these tasks effectively, the Union level central committee, work committee and region/state level work committees have been formed.

I would also like to inform the meeting that Myanmar government is focusing on the development of the agricultural sector, creation of a modern industrialized country, narrowing the development gap between States and Regions as well as urban and rural areas, establishing an accurate and reliable statistical data base, and improving the statistical data collection system.

As you all know, at present, Myanmar government has placed a great deal of emphasis on undertaking reforms geared towards political liberalization and national reconciliation during the initial stage of the reform process. The government is currently assembling the National Comprehensive Development Plan (NCDP), which consists of a set of four five-year plans covering a twenty year period from 2011-2031, as part of the second stage of the reform process to enhance economic development and raise the living standard of Myanmar people.

The government will adopt a people-centered approach in line with the Framework on Economic and Social Reform (FESR) when reforming the 10 priority areas such

as finance and revenue, relaxation of restrictions on trade and foreign investment, development of the private sector, education and health sectors, food security and development of the agricultural sector, transparency in government, the mobile phone and internet systems, and development of the basic infrastructure.

Myanmar Government is also undertaking administrative and management reforms as the third stage of the reform process. In order to help achieve economic growth and raise the living standard for all citizens, the government is striving to foster good governance and promote clean government throughout the country.

The government has undertaken various reforms over two years. Because of these reforms, the international community has made significant changes in their respective policies towards Myanmar. EU has lifted all sanctions on Myanmar except for arms embargo in response to the political reform of Myanmar Government on 22 April 2013.

Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum was held on 19 January in Nay Pyi Taw for implementing the cooperation with the international donors who wish to help and partner with Myanmar in its reform process would like to know the priority sectors and areas in the country's reform strategy and development plans.

While cooperating with donor countries and organizations in accordance with the five principles of the Paris Declaration-ownership, alignment, harmonization, result-oriented, and mutual accountability, we will be able to achieve our development goals, improve the standard of living of Myanmar citizens, and raise the capacity of human resources in the country.