

**Country Statement**

Myanmar  
(Rev.)

**By**

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**Mr. Chairman, Executive Secretary Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is indeed a pleasure and honour for me to deliver a country statement on the 71<sup>th</sup> Session of UNESCAP.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the UNESCAP for organizing this important session and also congratulates Mr. Chairman for being elected as the Chairman of this session.

**Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

MDG will be ended in this year 2015 and we are finalizing SDGs for the post 2015. The theme topic of this session, “Balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development; from integration to implementation”, is very appropriate and important to us because when we implement our strategies, plans and programs for our socio-economic development, we need to maintain environmental conservation as well. Without environmental protection, development cannot be sustained in the long term. We need to work together for balancing economic, social and environmental activities.

As we know, the Asia and Pacific region is growing rapidly with its dynamic economy and cultural diversity and is set to play a critical and important role in the world.

However, the social and economic disparities between LDCs including Myanmar and the rest of the countries are widening. LDCs have generally not been as successful in effectively integrating into the regional and global economy. While some have been able to trigger economic

growth on the basis of exports of labour-intensive manufacturing products or natural resources, such growth in itself has often been insufficient to meet the internationally agreed goals including MDGs.

The priority need is to narrow the development gap through enhanced regional integration and connectivity for the successful implementation of SDGs.

**Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In the case of Myanmar, since 2011, the Government initiated series of reforms. The first stage of reforms was focused on political and governance changes aimed primarily at achieving peace and national unity. It success provided foundations for the second stage of reforms targeted at economic and social development in which people centered development for inclusive growth has been a guiding policy objective. This was followed by a third stage of reforms aimed at the transformation of public administration and fourth stage of reform intended to facilitate private sector development.

Although we made series of reforms and gained success in many areas, we also face significant challenges. The major challenges are the lowest GDP per capita and electrification ratio in Asia, poverty and inequality, narrow economic structure, inadequate domestic connectivity and limited linkages to the regional economy. Regarding MDG, we achieved some targets and slow progress in some targets, so we are not likely to achieve all the MDG goals.

We are now formulating and implementing the National Comprehensive Development Plan – NCDP, 2011-2031. The NCDP serves as a framework for planning, policy and investment decisions by setting priority decisions, long term goals and broad strategies. Poverty reduction, graduation from LDC and moving a knowledge based economy are including in our priorities.

The first five-year plan (2011-2016) targets people-centered development, which improves the standard of living of Myanmar's people. The priority areas are access to electricity, water supply, agricultural development, job creation as well as rural development.

In October 2014, we launched the National Zero Hunger Challenge with the support of FAO to eradicate hunger. Regarding the environmental conservation, the Environmental Conservation Law was enacted in March 2012. We have now been arranging and coordinating to formulate the National Environmental Policy Implementation Strategy and Action, the Green Economy Green Growth Policy, the national and sectoral Climate Change Strategies and Action Plan, and the National Climate Change Policy in cooperation with UN agencies and development partners.

As regard the social sector, Myanmar is implementing the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women -NSPAW (2013-2022) based on Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW.

**Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In this context, we realize the importance of collaboration, cooperation, and inclusiveness for sustainable development. we are working together with the international and regional community, development

partners, UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs, civil society organizations, the private sector and our people.

We commit to cooperate more closely with the countries in the region and UNESCAP in implementing the coming Sustainable Development Goals process. For successful implementation of SDGs, we would like to request UNESCAP to provide capacity building to vulnerable countries like LDCs and LLDCs.

In conclusion, Myanmar has been cooperating with the UN agencies, bilateral and regional institutions for the economic and social development. We will be working more closely with UNESCAP and countries of Asia and Pacific to achieve the goals of balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development from integration to implementation.

Thank you.