

# MYANMAR

#### CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

#### Statement

by

H.E. U Paw Lwin Sein,

Myanmar Ambassador to Belgium and European Union and member of the Myanmar Delegation

on Agenda Item 82

"The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels"

Before the Sixth Committee of the

69<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly

(New York, 10 October 2014)

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#### Mr. Chairman,

- 1. First of all, I would like to join the previous speakers in congratulating you and the members of the Bureau on your well-deserved election. It is indeed my great pleasure to deliver a Statement at this important committee particularly on this important agenda of "The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels".
- 2. As a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), my delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by Lao PDR on behalf of the *ASEAN* and also with the statement by Iran on behalf of the *NAM* under this agenda item.

## Mr. Chairman,

- 3. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Secretary General for his report on "Strengthening and Coordinating United Nations Rule of Law Activities" which particularly highlights the rule of law activities made by the United Nations and its agencies.
- 4. My delegation welcomes the theme of this year's debate of the Sixth Committee focusing on "Sharing States' National Practices in Strengthening the Rule of Law through Access to Justice" under this agenda item.

### Mr. Chairman,

5. Taking this opportunity, my delegation would like to inform the Committee on the significant developments achieved in Myanmar in strengthening the rule of law at national level.

- 6. Since the coming into office of the present Government, there has been rapid development of legislations thanks to its legal reform measures. A number of new laws have been enacted to serve the better interest of the people and many other existing domestic laws are under discussion to be amended at the *Hluttaw* (Parliament) to be in line with the multi-party democratic system.
- 7. This year alone, we have enacted Anti-Money Laundering Law in March and established Anti-Money Laundering Central Board. Subsequently in June, Anti-Terrorism Law came in force. The Anti-Corruption Commission has been in place since February this year following the enactment of the Anti-Corruption Law.
- 8. We believe that the establishment of the "Rule of Law and Stability Committee" by the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House of the Parliament) in Myanmar is one of the important developments reflecting our strong commitment in this area.

#### Mr. Chairman,

- 9. Myanmar is mindful of the need to adjust all national laws to be in line with the international law and its applicable international legal instruments. At this important juncture, capacity-building programmes and technical assistance provided by the relevant United Nations agencies and our external partners play an essential role in our effort to further improve the rule of law at home.
- 10.In this regard, we thank *UNDP* and *UNODC* for their support to democratic governance in Myanmar by conducting trainings for law enforcement officials through its capacity building efforts. We also wish to express our appreciation to our development partners, particularly the *European Union* for providing trainings for our police force.
- 11. Myanmar, therefore, would welcome such capacity-building programmes and technical assistance for our law enforcement institutions. We would like to explore more area of cooperation in this regard with relevant institutions and countries.

#### Mr. Chairman,

- 12. We hardly need to mention that the rule of law and human rights are mutually reinforcing and contribute in various ways to the development of a country and its population. To that end, Myanmar is engaging with a number of countries and organizations through "Human Rights Dialogue" mechanisms.
- 13. We take pride in the establishment of *Myanmar National Human Rights Commission* (MNHRC), which has been operating in full swing to oversee the issues of human rights and reconstituted very recently with a view to execute its functions more independently. The Commission also serves as a useful mechanism for the people to file complaints of their rights violations, if any.

#### Mr. Chairman,

- 14.My delegation also believes that regional frameworks can also play an important role in promoting the rule of law internationally. We, therefore, place high value on the rule of law provisions enshrined in the ASEAN Charter.
- 15. Taking this opportunity, Myanmar wishes to inform briefly the Committee of our efforts to strengthen the rule of law at the international level. The Government of Myanmar has, in recent years, signed, ratified or acceded to a growing number of important international instruments, to name a few;
  - a) Additional Protocol for the IAEA Safeguard Agreement on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty,
  - b) the UN Convention against Corruption and
  - c) the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention)
- 16. Moreover, a few days ago, *Pyidaungsu Hluttaw* (Union Parliament) of Myanmar has just approved Myanmar's ratification to the *Biological Weapons Convention* (BWC). We have no doubt that these genuine endeavors would definitely benefit the development of our country and ensure the rule of law at both national and international levels.

# Mr. Chairman,

17.In conclusion, Myanmar would like to place on record our appreciation to the "Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group" chaired by the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations for their untiring efforts in strengthening and coordinating rule of law activities as well as for their publications and briefings provided to the Member States here at the UN.

18.I thank you. Mr. Chairman.

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