

**Statement by Ambassador H.E. Mr. San Lwin, Head of Myanmar delegation,
62nd Session of the IAEA General Conference, Vienna, Austria
19 September 2018**

Madam President, Excellency and Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Myanmar Delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the President of the 62nd Session of the General Conference. I am confident that under your able leadership, this Conference will attain all its objectives.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Director General Mr. Yukiya Amano and his able teams for their dedication and hard work to promote the three pillars of the Agency as well as for preparing the Annual Report for 2017, which reviews and summarizes the Agency's efforts and activities during the past year.

Madam President,

Myanmar supports the Agency's valuable contribution to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly through the Technical Cooperation Programme. Myanmar believes that we need to apply nuclear technologies in various sectors where possible.

As a developing country, Myanmar gains huge advantages through the training activities conducted under the TC Programme. These training activities contribute to a large extent to our high priority areas, from human health and livestock production, to strengthening national capacity in nuclear science and technology, radiation safety, environmental monitoring and industrial applications of radioisotopes.

Moreover, for the sustainability of the success of these TC Programme's impact, the agency also has been supporting to enhance the capacity building, particularly in the area of cancer care and isotope hydrology in water resource management, as well as has established a Secondary Standards Dosimetry Laboratory in Myanmar.

We would like to appreciate the IAEA's support for national and regional TC programme which makes an impact to the socio-economic development of the country.

For the years of 2020-2021 national TC programme, Myanmar will focus on establishing a gamma irradiation facility, capacity building in radiotherapy, running the Secondary Standards Dosimetry Laboratory, transboundary animal and zoonotic diseases, isotope hydrology in water resources management and marine environmental radiation monitoring.

As a responsible Member State, Myanmar has been fulfilling its obligations and commitments, contributing to the Regular Budget as well as to the Technical Cooperation Fund, and will do so in the future.

Recently in July, Myanmar hosted a regional coordination meeting on improving sustainable cotton production through enhanced resilience to climate change in Mandalay. As such collaboration strengthens the relations between the Agency and Myanmar, we look forward to working together again in the future.

Madam President,

Myanmar is of the view that nuclear safety and security is a matter of vital importance.

We strongly support the agency's identified priorities to further strengthening nuclear and radiation safety and emergency preparedness and response and revise the safety standards. This will minimize the impacts from nuclear and radiological

incidents and emergencies. The development of nuclear safety standards, guidelines, peer review and advisory services assist the member states in enhancing their capability. We also recognize the agency's hard work to build a high-level global nuclear safety and security system.

While nuclear security lies within the responsibility of the state, Myanmar believes international cooperation will benefit the global nuclear security regime. As a state-party to Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) and Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its amendment, Myanmar will continue to cooperate with the Agency and contribute to the global nuclear security.

We would like to reiterate our support to the Agency's efforts and activities in preventing and combating nuclear terrorism, strengthening measures for the detection of illicit nuclear trafficking, responding to nuclear security incidents, promoting nuclear security education.

Myanmar gains benefits from the e-learning courses provided by the agency. These courses provide an introduction to the principles of nuclear security based on the Agency's nuclear security recommendations and guidance, and therefore strengthen capacity building activities in those areas.

Madam President,

Myanmar believes the proliferation of nuclear weapons is a threat to the international peace and security. In order for the utilization of nuclear energy to be peaceful and secure, nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation must be achieved on the global scale. Therefore, Myanmar commends the Agency's central role in nuclear safeguards and verification in order to strengthen the global nuclear non-proliferation regime.

Here, we would like to inform you that Myanmar is going to sign and accede to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons during the 73rd regular session of

United Nations General Assembly's Treaty Event. This represents Myanmar's political will and strong commitment for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, and we will sustain our efforts.

Being a state-party to the Treaty of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation (NPT), the Safeguards Agreement and the additional protocol, the Small Quantities Protocol, Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), Myanmar commits a firm supporter of the global nuclear non-proliferation and a nuclear weapon-free world.

Meanwhile, Myanmar is in the process of drafting a National Nuclear Law on safety, security and safeguards. The draft law is now being discussed in the Parliament. This effort will increase the momentum of Myanmar's effort to pursue its nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament goals.

Madam President,

In conclusion, we would like to thank the Agency for its dedicated efforts and excellent contributions in the promotion of safe, secure and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Myanmar has been and will continue to support the Agency's work. And we are strongly convinced that the 62nd Session of the General Conference of the IAEA will make optimal decisions for the benefit of member states and the Agency itself in its activities.

I Thank you, Madam President.