

**Statement by Head of Myanmar Delegation, Dr. Aung Kyaw Myat**

**Deputy Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology,**

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

**At the 59<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference**

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**Mr. President,**

**Mr. Director General,**

**Excellencies,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

On behalf of the Myanmar delegation, I would like to express our sincere congratulation to you on your election as the President of 59<sup>th</sup> IAEA general conference. I am confident that your rich diplomatic skills and knowledge will facilitate our deliberations to a successful conclusion. I wish you assure of our delegation's full cooperation and support in discharge of your important mission.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to Director General Mr.Yukira Amano for his outstanding leadership and effective management for the IAEA activities.

We would also like to thank the Agency's secretariat for their hard work, dedication and excellent cooperation with IAEA member states.

My delegation joins previous speakers in extending a warm welcome to Turkmenistan, Antigua and Barbuda and Barbados to the family of IAEA.

**Mr. President,**

Nuclear Science and Technology have much to contribute to the achievement of development goals in areas especially for human health, food security, agriculture, water management and industrial applications as well as in energy. IAEA makes a unique and long standing contribution to member states in achieving their national development goals.

**Mr. President,**

Technical Cooperation projects are playing a significant role in the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy in Myanmar. The areas of cooperation include nuclear medicine, food security, agriculture, livestock breeding and health, water resource management, industrial applications, environmental conservation and radiation safety.

Taking this opportunity, Myanmar would like to acknowledge with appreciation for the Agency's assistance and support in many other

initiatives through the Technical Cooperation Programme. Myanmar benefits from the Agency by means of expert mission, equipment, fellowships, scientific visits, technical support, hand on experiences and special training course, just to name a few.

Myanmar also attaches great importance to the Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA). RCA is playing a leading role in the region to promote collaborative activities in nuclear science and technology through a number of RCA Projects that contribute significantly to regional socio-economic development.

Currently, Myanmar is participating in a total of 11 national projects and dozens of interregional projects within and beyond RCA.

**Mr. President,**

One of the central roles of the IAEA Agency is helping to strengthen the global nuclear security, safety and peaceful use in an effective manner for the member states. In this world of increasing challenges, we have to recommit ourselves again to protect humanity, society and the environment from the malicious intent.

To support the global nuclear security and to fulfill the international obligations, Myanmar is participating in the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan since 2013. Myanmar hosted workshops and meetings to promote nuclear security related activities and the capacity building of human resources. Recently, we organized National Stakeholders meeting for the development of detection and response capability at Borders for Myanmar and National Workshop on Threat Assessment and Design Basis Threat (DBT).

Moreover, in collaboration with USDOE, we are engaging with the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) Programme. We have also organized Radioactive Source Security Awareness Seminars and National Training Course on Physical Protection and Security Management of radioactive source.

**Mr. President,**

Myanmar is a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation (NPT) since 1992 and signed the safeguards agreement and the small quantities protocol (SQP) to NPT in 1995. As an ASEAN member, Myanmar also acceded to the Treaty on South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) in 1995 and it

entered into force in 1997. Myanmar also signed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 1996. Moreover, Myanmar joined Asia Pacific Safeguards Network-APSN and we are playing an active role in ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy-ASEANTOM.

Myanmar is taking an incremental approach to implement Additional Protocol (AP). Myanmar, in cooperation with IAEA and United States Department of Energy (USDOE), has participated International Safeguards and Engagement Program. We organized a series of national workshops to enhance capacity building and sharing experiences regarding with AP and as a result Myanmar signed Additional Protocol on 17 September 2013.

**Mr. President,**

To strengthen the national regulatory system, we have completed the drafting process of Comprehensive Nuclear Safety Law. We have established SSAC system in Myanmar to facilitate implementation of the Additional Protocol. In short, our implementation of AP is progressively moving in a right direction.

**Mr. President,**

The Country Programme Framework (CPF) for the period (2016-2021), with the agency's support, is going to finalize very soon. Signing between the Government of Myanmar and the IAEA will be taken place soon. Under the CPF, we believe that strengthening the capacity building in various fields such as Agriculture, Livestock, Human Health, Environmental, Radiation Safety, Industry, Water Resource Management, Electron Beam Facility, Nuclear Science and Technology Education will be very benefit for Myanmar National. In this connection, we would like to request the agency's assistance to implement the national development priorities and activities relevant to the agency's technical cooperation programme.

**Mr. President,**

The Government of Myanmar is focusing on investment for developing nuclear infrastructures, strengthening the national regulatory body including a sound legal framework and promoting the application of nuclear medicine, getting the technical transfer and hand-on experiences and to enhance international cooperation on nuclear safety, security and safeguard.

Moreover, Myanmar will strongly continue to engage in bilateral co-operations including the United States on nuclear security and safeguard.

In conclusion, Myanmar firmly believes that 59<sup>th</sup> session of IAEA General Conference will contribute and enhance global nuclear safety, security and safeguards as well as peaceful use of nuclear science and technology. We would like to express again our deepest appreciation to Mr. President, Mr. Director General and Agency Secretariat for their enthusiasm, dedication, hard work and excellent cooperation with the member states.

I thank you. Mr. President