



# MYANMAR

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**Statement  
by  
Mr. Thant Sin  
Deputy Director-General  
and Representative of the Myanmar Delegation**

**On Agenda Item 84  
“The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels”**

**Before the Sixth Committee of the  
71<sup>st</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
(New York, 5 October 2016)**

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Deputy Director-General and Representative of the Myanmar Delegation  
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Mr. Chairman,

1. At the outset, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to you and members of the bureau for your elections. You have our full support in discharging your important duties. My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by the delegation of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the delegation of Laos PDR on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Mr. Chairman,

2. Strengthening and promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels is our common objective to achieving universal respect for justice. We believe that the Charter of the United Nations and the principles enshrined therein are the corner stones for establishing the rule of law at the international level.

3. The rule of law at the national and international levels is prerequisite for socio-economic development, justice, promotion of human rights, peace and security. Respect for the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, including sovereign equality of states, territorial integrity, and the peaceful settlement of disputes, is essential in strengthening international relations based on the rule of law.

Mr. Chairman,

4. In my country, the new democratic Government envisioned four main areas of domestic policy: national reconciliation, internal peace, drafting of a constitution aimed at establishing a democratic federal union, and improving the quality of life for the people.

5. In order to carry out these priorities, the government has given emphasis on the rule of law to promote peace, stability, democracy and economic development

of the people. Myanmar is striving to achieve the advancement of rule of law at all levels by undertaking a series of reforms including legal and judicial reforms.

Mr. Chairman,

6. In our efforts to strengthening the judiciary system in Myanmar, the Supreme Court of the Union issued Judiciary Strategic Plan (2015-2017) aimed at establishing a national strategy for court modernization and reform for the Myanmar Judiciary. In implementing the strategic plan, annual action plans are being drawn up to implement five action areas namely, Protect Public Access to Justice; Promote Public Awareness; Enhance Judicial Independence and Accountability; Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary; Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing.

7. Year one strategic action plan aimed to achieve significant results in improving access to justice for citizens, implementation of a new Supreme Court Case Management Plan, introduction of basic automation in the pilot demonstration courts, developing Electronic Case Information System, Enhancement of the media and public relations and institutional improvements in Judicial Training Centre.

Mr. Chairman,

8. With the initiative of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament) Committee on the Rule of Law and Tranquillity, Myanmar established Rule of Law Centres in various parts of the nation to provide knowledge, skills, values and general awareness of law through a targeted curriculum and outreach reforms for legal professionals, community leaders and civil society organizations. We have so far established four such centres in Myanmar with the assistance from Japan and UNDP. Recent activities of the centres include conducting Foundations in Rule of Law Courses and Advanced Courses for lawyers. At the same time, comprehensive "Training of Trainers" courses have been held in order to produce more trainers across the country to man the existing and new centres.

9. With regard to community outreach programmes, bi-monthly outreach activities such as community forums, roundtable discussions and mock trials are being organized. This work will include supporting a referral system for visitors to each Centre to link with existing legal service providers. Legal Resource Centres will be completed by the end of this year. The Centres will provide access to a range of international and legal materials and desktop computer access for online resources. These projects will be implemented step by step for transforming the functions of the centres into permanent professional development and legal assistance organizations. We are grateful to the Government of Japan and the UNDP for the assistance provided for the establishment of Rule of Law Centres in Myanmar which will enhance capacity building for legal practitioners.

Mr. Chairman,

10. Myanmar adheres to the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter which are the essence of international law. We are determined to work closely with the United Nations and other UN related bodies in promoting international peace and security. Myanmar's ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty during this Assembly session once again reflects our commitment on international peace and justice. In the same vein, Myanmar always support ASEAN's every effort to enhance cooperation in promoting democracy, good governance and the rule of law and to further enhance a rule-based ASEAN community of shared values and norms as reflected in the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realization of the ASEAN Community 2015.

11. In conclusion, I wish to express our appreciation to the "Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group" for its commendable efforts in strengthening and coordinating rule of law activities.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.

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