



# MYANMAR

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**Statement**

by

**His Excellency U Nyan Win**

**Minister for Foreign Affairs**

and

**Chairman of the Delegation of the Union of Myanmar**

**at the High-Level Plenary Meeting**

of

**the 60<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

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**New York**

Mr. President,

May I first of all congratulate you on your election to this high office to preside over this largest ever assembly of world leaders, determined to come together again, in this crucial time, to reassess and reaffirm commitments to promote peace, security, social progress and betterment of life in larger freedom by collectively meeting the threats and challenges of the 21st century. I am confident that your vast experience, keen insight and able guidance will lead to fruitful deliberations of this august body.

Mr. President,

The 21st century is a century of breathtaking opportunities as well as a century of new threats and challenges for all of us. On one hand, we are presented with opportunities brought about by rapid and innovative developments in scientific, industrial, information and communication technologies that will enable faster growth, and advancement of higher living standards. Yet, on the other hand, the century has also revealed that there are new evolving threats to humankind that had not been envisaged when the United Nations was first established in 1945.

Mr. President,

We have a shared responsibility to ensure a more secure world for the global community and its future generations in addition to our separate national responsibilities and priorities. The world leaders pledged in their Millennium Declaration that the world in 2015 would be a better world from the one that we live in today. They made Solemn commitments to implement the Millennium Development Goals which aim to guarantee peace and security through disarmament, alleviate poverty through development, protect the environment, and promote human rights, democracy and good governance through establishment of agreed international norms. Progress in achieving the MDGs are far from its original goals. We should however not despair but continue to endeavour to meet the agreed targets.

In the view of my country the priority areas include:-

- combating the scourge of terrorism and transnational crime;
- to enhance cooperation in meeting the challenges of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and nuclear disarmament ;
- to ensure that development is sustainable and environment is protected;
- to intensify the international community's efforts to prevent , mitigate and eradicate communicable diseases including, HIV/AIDS pandemic and Avian flu.

In Myanmar, we are making satisfactory progress towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. In our drive to eradicate poverty we have achieved significant results through designation of 24 special development zones in the States and Divisions to achieve equitable and balanced

development throughout the country. In the area of education for all, net enrollment in primary education was 84.5 per cent in 2005 with 74.5 per cent being able to complete its full course. According to our estimation, by 2015 net enrollment will reach 99 per cent. In the health sector, Myanmar is now free from diseases such as small pox, leprosy and polio. We have designated HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis as diseases of national concern. We are also actively participating in the international community's efforts to combat this scourge through its membership in the UNAIDS Programme Coordination Board.

It is, however, regrettable that with regard to my own country even in addressing the global challenge of HIV/AIDS there has been politicization.

Myanmar is endeavouring to achieve development mainly relying on its own resources without assistance particularly from international financial institutions. With external financial assistance our development efforts can be accelerated.

Mr. President,

If the World is to achieve economic development and social progress in a secured environment then consolidated international efforts are urgently needed to solve the global economic issues through implementation of the goals set out in the Millennium Declaration, both by developed and developing countries.

The United Nations, being the only Organization with a global reach and global mandate, is the best entity to assist member countries in these critical tasks. Therefore, the United Nations must be reformed to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and to strengthen capacity to meet and overcome the threats and challenges of the 21st century.

Mr. President,

While the United Nations must be reformed, its sacrosanct principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, non-interference in internal affairs, settlement of disputes by peaceful means, and non-use of force or threat of use of force should remain inviolate. These are the guiding principles that have withstood the test of time and are as relevant and valid today as on the day they were adopted.

We are confident that this august assembly would reaffirm the cardinal principles that uphold and consolidate the United Nations as the world body for all nations based on equality, solidarity, tolerance, cooperation and multilateralism.

Thank you.