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Statement

by

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Mr. Chairman,

Allow me first of all to congratulate you and members of the bureau on your election to guide the work of this Committee. We are confident that under your able leadership, our deliberations will bear fruitful results. My delegation assures you of our full support and cooperation.

My delegation associates itself with the statements made by the distinguished representative of Fiji on behalf of the G-77 and China, and the distinguished representatives of Indonesia and Benin on behalf of ASEAN and LDCs respectively.

Mr. Chairman,

As we are fast approaching the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals, the international community must intensify their efforts to meet their targets. Despite remarkable progress made in the past 13 years, much remains to be done for the full realization of the MDGs targets. A large number of developing countries, particularly the LDCs, are still grappling with poverty, hunger, economic and social disparity and environmental degradation. Major new challenges have emerged to threaten or hamper the development efforts of the many weaker economies. Climate change effects become visible. Natural disaster becomes more frequent and intense. Rich and poor gaps become wider. Inequality at both national and international levels poses a threat to political and economic stability. Peoples around the world are seeking more responsive government, better governance and improvement of their socio-economic life. Our future challenges are thus becoming more than ever cross-regional and intergenerational, demanding enhanced collective efforts among the family of nations.

Achieving inclusive and sustainable development will be the greatest challenge for this century in the agenda of the United Nations and the international community. Therefore, my delegation welcomes the establishment of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development by the General Assembly. Myanmar also supports the outcome document of the recent Special Event on MDGs, which reaffirmed the poverty eradication as today’s greatest global challenge and the widely accepted principle of equity and common but differentiated
responsibilities. We believe that it would guide the formulation of Sustainable Development Goals and the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

Climate change is one of the most pressing global problems that requires urgent attention and actions of the international community. The negative socio-economic effects as well as environmental impacts wrought by climate change transcend national boundaries, posing a serious threat to our development efforts. It would also potentially and seriously reverse hard-earned development gains. We believe that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) would continue to serve as the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change. In this regard, my delegation wishes to stress the need for the international community to take urgent actions for provision of enhanced financial resources and technological cooperation for the mitigation and adaptation efforts of the developing countries affected by climate change.

Therefore, Myanmar looks forward with high expectation to the upcoming COP19 to be held in Warsaw next month. We are hopeful that it will bring tangible results including operationalization of the Green Climate Fund by early 2014 and scaling up funding to reach the target of US$100 billion per year by 2020. We also hope that the high-level meeting, planned for September 2014, will provide a platform for leaders to demonstrate political will, raise ambition, and catalyze action on the ground to reduce emissions and strengthen resilience.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to achieve the goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action for at least half of the LDCs to get graduated by 2020, it is essential that the IPOA be implemented in a timely and effective manner. We would like to emphasize that without a favourable external environment and strong international support and cooperation, the LDCs will not be able to achieve this goal. Therefore, my delegation wishes to add our voice in the repeated call by the LDC group to the developed countries to assist for improvement of the livelihood of the peoples in LDCs by keeping their commitments of an enhanced, predictable and sustainable flow of ODA and taking additional support measures.
Mr. Chairman,

Myanmar is fully aware of the primary responsibility of LDCs for their own development. Accordingly, the government of Myanmar has been restlessly undertaking socio-economic reforms to improve the livelihood of the people in tandem with the political reforms in its transition to democracy. The Government’s priority is to improve the lives of the peoples by reducing poverty, raising the level of education and health, and social standards and to bringing about inclusive growth for the prosperity of the country and its people.

To that end, the government is inviting more foreign investments that emphasizes on jobs creation, boosting agriculture production and rural developments. We are trying to create a better environment for the international investors. The new Foreign Direct Investment Law enacted last year, was crafted in a way to ensure mutual benefit for foreign investors and our citizens.

Mr. Chairman,

Myanmar has set a target to achieve a sustained economic growth of 7.7% in the next five years with an aim to moving forward to a knowledge-based economy. Although Myanmar is rich in natural and human resources, it is badly in need of financial capital, technological know-how and human resource development (HRD) for sustainable exploitation of natural resources. My delegation fully understands that to achieve inclusive and sustainable economic growth, Myanmar has to further accelerate its economic and financial reforms that would deliver benefits to the people. In this critical time of transition, our national efforts need to be complemented by the continued goodwill support and mutually beneficial cooperation from our development partners and the international community.

We therefore harbor the fervent desire to work closer and broader cooperation with our development partners far and near in implementation of the all-round development agenda for the people of Myanmar.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.