

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun, Permanent Representative of  
Myanmar to the United Nations office in Geneva at  
the 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Independence Day of  
the Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
31<sup>st</sup> January 2019  
Geneva**

**Excellencies,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is indeed my privilege to welcome you, Ambassadors and all our colleagues to the celebration of the 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of our Independence Day which actually falls on the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

On this auspicious occasion, I wish to extend best wishes and warmest greetings to you all.

**Your Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Myanmar regained its independence on 4<sup>th</sup> January, 1948. After gaining independence, the country faced with different kinds of conflicts among national races. The successive Governments have been trying to end armed conflicts and to bring peace with myriad of other ethnic armed groups. The 21st Century Panglong Union Peace conferences have been held for national reconciliation and peace.

The current Government is keeping up its efforts for the peace process and national reconciliation. The Government is trying to build a peaceful and prosperous democratic federal union with the (3) priority goals. They are rule of law and improvement of the socio-economic life of the people, national reconciliation and internal peace, and amending the constitution which is the foundation for building a democratic federal union. 2 days ago, the Union Parliament approved the proposal to form a joint committee consisting of members of the Parliament to expeditiously implement the steps to be taken towards amending the Constitution.

The third 21st Century Panglong Conference was successfully convened and agreements on democratic practices and federal principles have been reached.

In his message to the country on the Independence Day, President U Win Myint of Myanmar urged all people of Myanmar to strive with goodwill for the building of a democratic federal union; for peace, prosperity and modernization of the union; and for everyone to enjoy the fruits of Democracy regardless of the states and regions they reside in.

**Your Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Myanmar has undergone rapid social, economic and political transformations in recent years. Myanmar, a nascent democratic state, is facing daunting challenges. But we are resolute to overcome them for the benefit and betterment of all people in Myanmar. In this regard, constructive cooperation of the international community will be most appreciated.

As a member of the global community of nations, Myanmar is also committed to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. To this end, we have developed a comprehensive social, economic and environmental policy reform agenda, namely the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan – MSDP, which provides a unifying and coherent roadmap for all future reforms. Structured around 3 Pillars, 5 Goals, 28 Strategies and 251 Action Plans, the MSDP can be seen as the expression of Myanmar’s national development vision. It is founded on a long-term vision: a vision of a peaceful, prosperous and democratic country.

In recent years, we have undertaken a number of reforms. These reforms have had a profound impact on Myanmar, fundamentally enhancing our investment environment. In her statement at the “Invest Myanmar Summit 2019” held last Monday in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, the State Counsellor reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to continue its reforms and to build an investment-friendly-environment.

**Your Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As an Ambassador of Myanmar to Switzerland, let me touch a little bit upon the bilateral relations between Myanmar and Switzerland. Myanmar and the Swiss Confederation enjoy cordial and excellent bilateral relations ever since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1957. Myanmar highly values its relations with the Swiss Confederation.

I would like to thank the Government of Switzerland for its continued support to Myanmar for its democratic transition as well as for the education and sustainable development. I would also like to reaffirm our commitment to continue working closely with Switzerland to further deepen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries in both bilateral and multilateral contexts.

Before I conclude, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Director-General of WIPO and his staff for providing this venue and excellent services for this occasion.

Thank you again for joining us on this special occasion. We truly value your presence at this auspicious occasion.

Now, without any further ado, I would like to invite everyone to enjoy Myanmar homemade traditional food and delicacies. I am also happy to remind you not to forget to get a pack of Myanmar coffee as a giveaway at the entrance before you leave.

With that, please join me in raising our glasses:

- to prosperity of the people of Myanmar and beyond, and
- to the happiness and well-being of all distinguished guests who are present on this occasion.

Thank you.

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