MYANMAR

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**Statement**

**By**

**H.E. U Hau Do Suan**

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative of**
**the Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
**to the United Nations in New York**
**at 2017 UNDP Annual Meeting on Strengthening the Rule of Law for Sustaining Peace and Fostering Development**

**New York**
**(14 June 2017)**

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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Madam Chair,

I would like to join others in thanking you for holding this important meeting. I would also like to thank ASGs Mr. Magdy Martinez-Soliman and Alexandre Zouev for their comprehensive and insightful presentations on the Rule of Law for sustain peace and fostering development.

Please allow me to briefly share some of our efforts in regard to strengthening the rule of law to sustaining peace and fostering development. Myanmar firmly believes that strengthening the rule of law at national level is essential for development of socio-economy, justice, human rights, peace and security.

Our efforts to strengthening the rule of law include strengthening the judiciary system. The Supreme Court of the Union issued Judiciary Strategic Plan (2015-2017) which aimed at establishing a national strategy for court modernization and reform for Myanmar judicial system. In implementing the strategic plan, annual actions plans are drawn up to implement five action areas namely (1) Protect Public Access to Justice; (2) Promote Public Awareness; (3) Enhance Judicial Independence and Accountability; (4) Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary; and (5) Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing.

In addition, with the initiative of the Parliamentary Committee on the Rule of Law and Tranquility, Rule of Law Centers had been established in four major cities-Yangon, Mandalay, Taunggyi and Myitkyina since 2015. The main objective of the Centers are to help people gain trust towards the judicial system, to increase cooperation between law makers and the communities they serve, to increase

communities' knowledge of their rights and ability to access judicial and administrative remedies, and to initiate dialogue between communities and their local government to help identify common solutions to their problems. These Centers are also providing foundation courses to teach fundamental rule of law principles, enhance legal skills to lawyers and law teachers etc. With the active engagement of the local people, the Centers have been able to successfully carry out their activities.

Strengthening the rule of law is not only important for strengthening legal institutions but also crucial for achieving nationwide peace and national reconciliation.

In Myanmar, the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong 2nd session was held in Nay Pyi Taw from 24 to 29 May 2017. After careful discussions and consultations, for the first time since independence, 37 basic federal principles have been agreed upon and signed as part of the future Pyidaungsu(Union) Accord. This is a significant first step on our path towards peace, national reconciliation, and the emergence of a Democratic Federal Union.

We are determined to continue working closely with our partners to achieve sustainable peace, national reconciliation, socio-economic development and democracy in Myanmar.

I thank you.

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