MYANMAR

[Please check against delivery]

Statement by Ms. Ei Ei Khin Aye, Ambassador/ Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations, at the General Debate of the ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment
(New York, 02 March 2017)

Mr. Chair,

My delegation associates itself with the statement made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the Bureau for organizing the substantive panel discussions during this session.

Mr. Chair,

We have made great strides in our development agenda over the past years with the adoption of universal goals and targets including the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. In a world with ever changing demands, many challenges remain in translating the global transformative agenda.

We are hopeful that this segment, held after the adoption of the 2016 QCPR Resolution, will be able to establish the key policy orientations towards the re-positioning of the UN development system in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As we all agree, QCPR should be the main instrument to guide through the implementation of the SDGs.

The role of the United Nations development system (UNDS) is ubiquitous in the global development agenda. It needs to be better aligned in order to respond to the opportunities and challenges of the integrated and universal nature of the global development agenda. We expect the UN development system to build proper expertise on the SDGs in a balanced way and collectively support and guide countries through their SDG implementation. At the same time, it is significant that the system is pragmatic in addressing the countries' disadvantages and weaknesses as well as enhancing their strength and advantages.

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS
10 E. 77th Street, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10075 • Tel. (212) 744-1271 • Fax (212) 744-1290

Myanmar fully supports the fact that there can be no sustainable development without peace. Therefore, we encourage the UN development entities to continue their support and guidance, in accordance with their mandate, for peace building and sustaining peace.

Based on the QCPR, my delegation wishes to highlight some points complementing the efficiency, effectiveness and coherence of the UN Development System at all levels;

My delegation shares the view that there is no 'one-size fits all' approach in the pursuit of sustainable development. Therefore, the United Nations development system needs to enhance its efforts, in a flexible, timely, coordinated and integrated manner, and to pursue full alignment of operational activities for development at the country level with national development plans and strategies to strengthen national ownership and leadership at all stages of the operational activities of the United Nations development system.

We fully recognize the importance of the ECOSOC in providing coordination and guidance to the UN development system and the central role of the high level political forum on sustainable development in overseeing the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level.

We also recognize that international public finance, including the official development assistance, plays a crucial role in catalysing additional resource mobilization from other sources and strengthening domestic enabling environments for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development particularly of the Least Developed Countries.

In cognizance to the critical role of technology advancement and innovation in developing countries, we wish to see the United Nations development system to be more active and supportive in any appropriate means, coordinate technical and scientific assistance through North-South, South-South and triangular, regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology, innovation and knowledge-sharing. In the same vein, we wish to encourage the UN development system to continue their assistance for voluntary financial contribution to the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries to ensure its effective operation.

Finally, my delegation would like to emphasize the importance of mainstreaming the SDGs in the strategic plans of the UN entities and having greater coherence and collaboration at all levels in a manner that recognizes their respective mandates and roles and enhances the effective utilization of their resources and their unique expertise, in line with the QCPR orientations.

I thank you.