MYANMAR

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Statement by

Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun,

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on Agenda Item 84

"The Rule of Law at the National and International Level"

at the Sixth Committee of the

72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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Mr. Chairman,

1. My delegation associates itself with the statements made by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the Kingdom of Cambodia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

2. I thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report submitted under this agenda item. We welcome the Secretary-General's invitation to the member states to discuss openly on the rule of law assistance to be more effective, more coherent and sustainable.

3. The rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for socio-economic development, peace and security, justice and human rights. It is also pivotal for preventing conflict. The SDG - 16 emphasizes promotion of rule of law and equal access to justice.

Mr. Chairman,

4. At the national level, the government has given emphasis on the rule of law to promote peace, stability, democracy and economic development of the people of Myanmar. Strengthening rule of law is needed for the mental security of our people in order to bring development for the country. It is also needed for attracting foreign investment and economic development.

5. To further strengthening of rule of law, Myanmar has launched the Strategic Plan for 2015-2019. In implementing the Strategic Plan, annual action plans have been put in place to focus on four main areas. They are (1) to protect the legal rights of individuals and the national interest; (2) to strengthen the performances of the Union Attorney-General's Office; (3) to inspire public trust and confidence in the justice system; and (4) to take an active role in justice sector reform.

6. Moreover, a Judiciary Strategic Plan for 2015-2017 was adopted with special focus on promoting the rule of law, enhancing reliability and public trust in the judiciary system, adjudicating cases fairly and speedily in accordance with the law, and upgrading the integrity of the courts.

7. The State Counsellor has been championing for promoting rule of law in the country even before she came into office. Rule of law centres were established in 2015 in collaboration with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), and UNDP, under the guidance of the Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee then chaired by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

8. Four rule of law centres have been opened so far in four main cities in Myanmar. The centres provide training, with a substantive focus on local justice issues linked to international rule of law principles including fairness and equality, to lawyers, law teachers, and civil society representatives, as well as fostering general awareness of the law among the public. Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank IDLO, UNDP and donor countries such as Australia, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Sweden and UK for their support in this rule of law centre intiative.

9. Today, the new government has set up the Coordinating Body for Rule of Law Centres and the Performance of the Justice Sector. The Coordinating Body is working closely with the UNDP for advancing the works related to rule of law centres and performance of the justice sector including organizing more trainings, opening more rule of law centres.

Mr. Chairman,

10. With the democratic transition in Myanmar, a series of reforms on practice of policing have been introduced. With an aim to fulfill the need of the people, the democratic policing was introduced. Collaboration between police and local community is essential to solve issues of the community. Therefore, our police force has given attention on community policing, problem solving policing and intelligent-led policing. Strengthening such policing will enhance better relation between police and the public.

Mr. Chairman,

11. At the regional and international levels, we are working with countries in the region and beyond and with the UN and international organizations to fight against transnational organized crimes such as trafficking in persons, money laundering, drugs trafficking, smuggling of artifacts and wild life.

12. In order to become a world governed by the rule of law, all the member states of the United Nations should renew their pledge to respect, support, preserve and promote the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and international law. With this spirit, Myanmar ratified the Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and acceded to the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change during the current session of the General Assembly. These ratification and accession reflect our firm commitment to the environmental conservation and the sustainable development goals.

13. I would like to inform this august body that Myanmar will soon deposit the instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

14. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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