နောက်ဆက်တွဲ (c)

Statement by Ambassador Hmway Hmway Khyne, Deputy Permament Representative of the Republic of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations on Agenda Item 66 (a) and (b): "New Partnership for Africa's Development: Progress in Implementation and International Support"

Mr. President,

My delegation would first like to express our appreciation for the consolidated report prepared by the Secretary General (A/74/193) on the implementation of resolution 73/335 of the Seventy-third session of the General Assembly, which entrusted the international community and United Nations system with organizing support for African countries in accordance with the principles, objectives and priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). My delegation also commends the report presented by the Secretary-General (A/74/301) on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development. Both reports contain a comprehensive review of the progress made in the implementation of NEPAD and the establishment of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa. The reports also identify the challenges and constraints encountered in implementation.

Mr. President,

Africa has suffered through considerably difficult times, and it continues to encounter a complex array of problems, to the extent that we cannot expect their immediate resolution. Nevertheless, Africa's record of achievements thus far must also be acknowledged. The international community, for its part, needs to continue and increase the momentum of its assistance and demonstrate its solidarity with our African partners.

My delegation is heartened by recent developments directed towards the realization of the NEPAD initiatives. The first development is the progress made in the implementation of an African Peer Review Mechanism, aimed at increasing the transparency and accountability of African Governments. We also welcome the critical role played by the African Union Development Agency in coordinating the implementation of subregional and continental programmes and projects across the key NEPAD priority sectors. Those two positive developments indicate that the NEPAD process has been moving forward to address the problems at hand.

Mr. President,

Such commitment made by the African leaders, commendable as they are, will not be sufficient to overcome the many difficulties Africa is presently encountering. The rate of poverty in Africa especially sub-Sahara is still high. According to the report of Secretary-General on the implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027), the prevalence of undernourishment was highest in Africa. The mortality rate among young children remains high and primary school enrolment is low. The recent economic climate in Africa is not very encouraging, as the year 2018 was characterized by a slowdown in economic growth, with increasing the trade tension, raising inequality and adverse climate change.

In the light of those challenges, it is imperative that African countries redouble their efforts and demonstrate that Africa remains a viable development partner in the world. At the same time, the international community must respond the African efforts appropriately by assisting our African friends to help themselves.

In this context, it is significant that the Government of China launched eight initiatives to strengthen China-Africa cooperation over the next three years, including an extension of $ 60 billion in financing to Africa in the form of government assistance. It is also a positive development to see a continued increase in net official development assistance to Africa, which has increased from $ 49.9 billion 2016 to around $ 51.8 billion in 2017.

But these developments, however encouraging, are still far from adequately addressing the many and varied needs of Africa. Member Countries of the OECD Development Assistance Committee need to make additional resources towards achieving the target of 0.7 percent of their gross national income (GNI) and reaffirm the commitment of Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

My delegation is of the view that South-South cooperation remains a key instrument to assist African development. The trend of increased economic and technical cooperation between Africa and other developing regions in Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean is particularly welcome. The Asian-African Subregional Organizations Conference, held in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2015 is an example of the revitalization of the spirit of the Afro-Asian movement and solidarity that began over 60 years ago.

Mr. President,

My delegation welcomes the role that the United Nations is playing in the implementation of NEPAD by helping to structure activities in accordance with the priorities of the Agenda. We welcome the signing of the African Union- United Nations framework for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 27 January 2018 which will promote the integrated and coordinated implementation, monitoring and reporting of both Agendas through joint activities and programmes. We must also give due recognition to the productive role that the private sector and civil society can play to ensure the success of NEPAD.

Mr. President,

We recognize that each country faces unique challenges towards achieving the sustianble development. Myanmar, like many countries in Africa, lagged behind in development due to internal armed conflicts. Drawing lessons from the post-independence history of the country replete with the armed insurrections by the ethnic groups, we strongly believe that peace and stability are most crucial for achieving development. Therefore, the Government of Myanmar has placed peace and national reconciliation as top priority. We have successfully convened three sessions of the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong to reach agreement on the fundamental principles for democratic federal union.

To bring peace and prosperity to the nation is the need to ensure equitable development in the economic, social and environmental spheres. With its strategic location and rich human and natural resources, Myanmar has vast economic potential. The Government of Myanmar has developed Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan- MSDP (2018-2030) in line with all SDGs targets. Guided by MSDP, the government has begun a series of reforms to remove economic distortions. With those reforms, Myanmar has experienced rapid growth in recent years and become one of the region's fastest growing economies with an annual growth rate of 6.5% in 2018-2019.

Mr. President,

Durable peace, security and sustainable development in Africa are intertwined and interrelated. In these circumstances, NEPAD remains the most viable approach to achieving sustainable African development as well as durable peace. It is essential that the international community remain engaged with the countries of Africa for the successful implementation of the home-grown process so wisely drawn up by the African leaders.

I thank you, Mr. President.