Statement by

His Excellency U Wunna Maung Lwin
Union Minister for Foreign Affairs and
Head of the Delegation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

at the United Nations Summit

for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda

New York
26 September 2015
Mr. Co-Chair,

It is a great honour and privilege for me to take part in this historic Summit of the United Nations for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

At this auspicious gathering, we have taken a bold step to embark on the 2030 Development Agenda including the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) after bringing the MDGs to a close.

This important document entitled “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” will guide us in our development efforts for the coming 15 years. It is the result of nearly two years of intensive and inclusive preparations and negotiations.

Since it is a historic achievement of multilateralism, may I congratulate Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon and, President of the 69th session of the General Assembly Mr. Sam Kutesa for their leadership as well as all Member States and all stakeholders for their contributions throughout the process.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has provided an important framework for development for the past 15 years.

We all agree that a significant progress has been achieved in implementing the MDGs in most countries at varying degrees, while many challenges remains to be addressed especially for the LDC countries.

My own country, Myanmar, has also made notable achievements, particularly in poverty and hunger reduction, literacy and basic education, eliminating gender disparity in primary, secondary and tertiary education, reduction of child mortality rate, improving maternal health, and developing global partnership for development. In the area of combating HIV/ AIDS, malaria and other diseases, Myanmar is among the few
countries in the world where the incidence rate of HIV infection among adults has decreased by over 50 percent over the past decade. We are also making significant and durable progress in our fight against malaria.

The Government is also paying greater attention to enhancing investments in education, health, water and sanitation systems and creation of employment among others. Accordingly, the government has increased annual budget allocation for those sectors.

Like other developing countries, Myanmar has attached priority to meeting the MDGs. In the past, we made our utmost efforts to overcome the challenges in fulfilling the MDGs. In similar vein, we would be able to address the challenges in the future in collaboration with the United Nations and other international partners.

We are pleased to see that the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda carries forward the unfinished business of the MDGs by incorporating them in its main component of the Sustainable Development Goals. In implementing the SDGs, it is important to recognize national circumstances, different levels of development and the needs of countries in special situations including LDCs.

Learning lessons from the implementation of MDGs, means of implementation is crucial for the effective and timely implementation of SDGs. Only with the full and effective implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, can the 2030 agenda be achieved within the framework of a revitalized and strengthened global partnership.

Mr. Co-Chair,

Over the past five years, Myanmar has been making a series of reform measures in political, economic and social, administrative spheres and private sector development. Currently, we are implementing the 20-year National Comprehensive Development Plan-NCDP (2011-2030).
In line with the people-centered approach, Myanmar will redouble its effort to achieve sustainable development by mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda and SDGs in its national development agenda and work closely with the development partners.

In this regard, my delegation wishes to stress here that the Agenda must be implemented in a manner consistent with its national policy, legislation and development priorities.

As the 2030 Development Agenda contains a number of ambitious and far-reaching goals and targets, developing countries, especially LDCs, will face challenges to implement the 2030 Agenda in a timely manner.

Therefore, my delegation wishes to highlight that financial and technical assistance for the developing countries are crucial in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

I am confident that genuine partnership by all with their collective responsibilities would bring greater well-being, prosperity, peace and justice to a healthier planet by 2030. On our part, Myanmar pledges to join the international community’s efforts in bringing peace and prosperity for the people and the planet through enhanced partnership.

Thank You.