# Statement by Ambassador H.E. Mr. San Lwin, head of Myanmar delegation at the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the IAEA General Conference, Vienna, Austria (20<sup>th</sup> September 2017)

## Mr./Madam Vice-President and distinguished delegates,

It is my great pleasure to express our sincere congratulations to Ambassador Maria Zeneida Angara Collison on her election as the President of the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the IAEA General Conference. We are fully confident that under her able leadership, vast experience and rich diplomatic skills, she will guide the Conference to a very successful one.

My delegation extends a warm welcome to Grenada as a new member state to the IAEA family.

I would like to congratulate Director General Mr. Yukiya Amano on his reappointment as head of the IAEA for another four-year term. My delegation is convinced that, under his continued leadership, the Agency would continue to achieve good results and make further successful progress.

### Mr./Madam Vice-President,

The government of Myanmar highly appreciates the efforts and the achievements made by the Agency in performing of its mandates particularly nuclear energy development, nuclear technology applications for peaceful purposes, technical cooperation with member states, and nuclear safety, security and verification. My delegation would like to thank Director General and the Secretariat for their professionalism, impartiality and objectivity in carrying out the various tasks of the Agency and for the preparation of Annual Report. My delegation recognizes that the Annual Report for 2016 offers a comprehensive review of the Agency's activities during last year.

### Mr./Madam Vice-President,

The Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme has played a leading role in the promotion of peaceful use of nuclear science and technologies in Myanmar. Myanmar signed with IAEA the second Country Programme Framework for the

period of 2016-2020 in line with the policy priorities of the national comprehensive development plan. We fully appreciate the Country Programme Framework that will definitely promote the utilization of radiation-based facilities and related expertise that have been built in Myanmar to support the socio-economic development, as well as to integrate the nuclear techniques into national development plan. Moreover, Myanmar has been deposited the Instrument of Acceptance of Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology, 2017 (the 2017 RCA). Taking this opportunity, we would like to express our thanks to the Agency for the technical cooperation assistance provided through the national and regional TC projects.

#### Mr./Madam Vice-President,

In the area of nuclear safety and security, Myanmar signed the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) and Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its amendment in last year. Myanmar submitted its first National Report of CNS to the IAEA in March 2017. Myanmar fully supports the Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. Moreover, Myanmar has been studying the international standards and requirements for ensuring of adequate physical protection for all nuclear and radioactive materials and facilities transports of such materials, ensured safety of radiation resource, radioactive isotopes and radioactive wastes. Myanmar also continues its efforts for the development of human resources in the areas of national radiation safety infrastructure, regulatory framework, emergency planning and response preparedness, and all the relevant thematic safety area designated by the IAEA.

#### Mr./Madam Vice-President,

We highly appreciate the Agency's role and efforts for nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, which are essential in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. We are convinced that the verification programme of the Agency will continue to play a vital role in providing assurances to the international community that all the nuclear materials and facilities remain in peaceful activities. Myanmar advocates a world free of nuclear weapons. We recognize that nuclear weapon free zones are effective measures for nuclear weapon non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament. Myanmar is a state party to NPT.

Myanmar acceded to the Treaty of South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone, and last year ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). In addition, Myanmar is a State Party to the Safeguards Agreement and the Small Quantities Protocol. Myanmar signed the Additional Protocol in 2013, and we will notify the Agency for its entry into force on Myanmar when preparedness reaches a satisfactory level.

## Mr./Madam President,

In conclusion, we sincerely hope that the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the IAEA General Conference will make optimal decisions for the benefit of all member states and for the better achievements in its activities. Myanmar, once again, reaffirms its full support to the Agency in promotion and enhancement of the applications of nuclear science and technology in a safe, secure and peaceful way.

I thank you, Madam Vice-President.

