

**Statement delivered by Dr. Hrin Nei Thiam, Head of Delegation of
the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the COP 19 in Warsaw Poland**

11 to 22, November 2013

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Allow me to express my sincere gratitude for this opportunity to make a brief statement on behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Nations of the world have shown their deep concern on the global warming and climate change by adopting the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, and today at the 19th Conference of Parties, we are gathered here again in this beautiful city Warsaw of Poland, to reiterate our concerns and strengthen our commitments for achieving the objectives of the Convention through negotiations.

The climate change induced disasters are increasing in frequency and severity globally as well as regionally and locally. Myanmar expresses its deep concern and sympathy to the victims of the most powerful Typhoon Haiyan, which made landfall in the Philippines and Vietnam. Myanmar also is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, experiencing the land cross of devastating Cyclones Mala, Nargis and Giri in 2006, 2008 and 2010 respectively, and claiming thousands of lives, mostly by Nargis of 2008. Moreover, Myanmar has been challenged by frequent and intense Hydro-Meteorological related hazards accentuated with the effect of Global Warming and Climate Change.

During the recent two years, severe drought during monsoon season and unexpected intense rain, accompanying with floods during post monsoon season, resulted in double loss for the farmers and greatly affected on the food security of the country. The reliable Early Warning is very important not only for disaster reduction but also for adaptation of climate change. Myanmar like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Japanese Government for granting financial Aids about 40 Million USD for establishment of three weather Radars and 30 sets of Automatic weather

observation stations to strengthen the Early Warning System of Myanmar, which is going to materialize during 2014 to 2017.

Mr. President,

Climate Change is a global problem that requires a global solution. The Climate Change Convention is an important instrument for finding ways to achieve our common goal, to protect the climate system for present and future generations. Each of the Parties to the Convention, in accordance with the principle of the “common but differentiated responsibilities” has a vital role to play in making the instrument effective. The developed country Parties as the world’s leading producers of greenhouse gases should do their best and set an example for the developing countries to follow.

Allow me here to briefly mention the efforts being made in Myanmar in response to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Myanmar’s Initial National Communication, assessing national GHG emission has been reported to Secretariat of UNFCCC while for the time being, preparing to implement the Second Communication. Myanmar had prepared NAPA as a document of guidance to adapt and to enhance coping strategies to adverse impacts of climate and climate change. The outcome of NAPA, the submitted one Project Identification Form is now approved and going to be implemented accordingly.

Regarding with the Environmental aspects, the Ministry of Forestry was reformed as the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry in 2011, and Environmental Conservation Department was set up in 2012 under this Ministry to speed up the implementation of environmental protection and climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. The National Environmental Conservation Committee has been reformed with 32 members from 19 lined ministries as a full-flash focal organization in 2013 for taking guidance of the environment sector throughout the country. Moreover, with the aim to mainstream climate change into the Myanmar policy development and reform agenda, Myanmar Climate Change Alliance Programme (MCCA) was launching and will be implemented soon with the collaboration of EU and UN-Habitat.

Mr. President,

As the outcome of the Rio+20- “The Future We Want” has highlighted Green Economy as the pathway to Sustainable Development, the Government of Myanmar has given guidelines to respective organizations and ministries to follow low carbon economy in seeking development in their respective sectors. In this connection, Myanmar had an opportunity to host a sub-regional level conference on “**Post Rio+20: Advancing Green Economy for Sustainable Development**” in cooperation with Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam in March, 2013, with the resultant declaration of ‘Nay Pyi Taw Outcome’ which will be documented very soon. Myanmar is trying to establish mechanisms at the national level to implement CDM, REDD+ and Payment for Environment Services (PES) with the technical assistance from international organizations in order to encourage the green economy initiative. At the same time, Myanmar does express the requirements of technology, capacity building and financial support in carrying out these activities.

Before my conclusion, I wish to stress Myanmar’s concern on the importance of achieving the globally agreed 2°C goal for stabilizing the climate systems. We need to act urgently and we hope this COP as a stepping-stone into this urgently needed action, as well as paving the way to Paris where the world expects to agree on a new agreement to deal with this urgency. It is very important to having a clear roadmap for negotiating the planning, scope, structure and design of the new 2015 agreement. As one of LDC countries, Myanmar does express its support to set up an institutional mechanism for addressing Loss and Damage from the impacts of climate change, under the UNFCCC process.

Myanmar reassures that we stand united with all nations in combating the climate change and protecting the environment.

Thank you very much for your kind attention!