



MYANMAR

Check against delivery

Statement

By

His Excellency Mr. Tun Tun Naing

**Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Planning
and Economic Development of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
at the**

**Interactive Dialogue 1: Ending Poverty and Hunger
of the Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda**

New York

25 September 2015

Country Statement
By
His Excellency Mr. Tun Tun Naing
Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Planning
and Economic Development of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
at the
Interactive Dialogue 1: Ending Poverty and Hunger
of the Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda
UN Head Quarter, New York

Honorable Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good afternoon to you all,

It is indeed a pleasure and privilege for me to have a chance to participate and discuss in this important interactive dialogues of the Plenary Meetings of the United Nations Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 as the Government representative on behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

It is noted that this session will focus on tackling poverty in all its dimensions; achieving food security and addressing malnutrition; completing the unfinished business of the MDGs.

The Millennium Development Goals, we agreed last fifteen years ago provided an important framework for development and significant progress in each member state. But some of the MDGs remain off-track situation in Africa and also LDCs particularly those related to maternal, newborn and child health.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you well know that Mr. Ban Ki - moon, Secretary-General, said in his foreword in MDG Report 2015 that **nearly 60 %** of the world's one billion extremely poor people **lived in just five countries in 2011.**

The Asia-Pacific region was **on track** to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of halving the prevalence of extreme poverty by 2015, but **recent dramatic rises in the price of rice and other staples** food have pushed millions of people back into hunger and poverty.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Myanmar has made notable progress in poverty and hunger reduction and The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has also given priority to rural development and poverty alleviation by focusing on

- development of agricultural small-scale rural productivity and livestock breeding and fisheries;
- improvement of microfinance institutions and cooperative tasks;
- development of rural socio-economy and
- rural energy and environmental conservation.

Similarly, the National Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition aims to

- reduce the prevalence of underweight children less than five years of age
- and the proportion of the population below the minimum level of dietary energy consumption.
- Social protection services will have to be extended to a larger percentage of the active population.

Although the Government's target to reduce poverty by 2015 could be achieved, based on past trends, but it can also be met by slow trend because of currently facing the disaster risk especially flooding in 11 States and Regions.

The Government plays the leading role in response to flood disaster with the aim of survival of the victims and to create rehabilitation for the flood victims and provided necessary relief assistance and encouraged the flood victims.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The world is facing many challenges such as financial crisis, climate change, food security and rise in demand for energy.

Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) was initiated at global level by UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June 2012 and is now being applied at national level in Asia and the Pacific.

At the regional level, the Asia-Pacific Zero Hunger Challenge was launched during the 69th ESCAP Commission session.

Myanmar has launched a major initiative to eradicate hunger on World Food Day in October 2014 which is intended to pave the way for concrete formulation of a national action plan and creation of national ways and means to follow up on activities in support of the global ZHC.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The first action of ZHC which is actually the National Action Plan and is drafted with the technical assistance of FAO and collaboration with WFP, UNICEF and WHO and expect to finalize in October. With this plan, we hope to contribute the achievement of MDG 1 , SDG 1 and 2.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Myanmar endeavors to make efforts on poverty reduction and LDC graduation.

We believe that Government need to cooperate closely private, public, INGOs, NGOs, IOs and all stakeholders in development activities for LDC graduation and trying to take and utilize international development assistance.

In conclusion, progressive achievement in nation-building can be witnessed in many areas such as infrastructure development and development in economic and social sectors. As per our Government's relentless effort and the strong will of the people by endeavoring to achieve MDGs and SDGs, Myanmar will definitely meet the criteria for graduation from LDC in time.

Thank you.

----- XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX -----