



M Y A N M A R

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT BY
HIS EXCELLENCY U NYAN WIN
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE DELEGATION OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
AT THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE
SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(New York, 28 September 2010)

Mr. President,

May I begin by extending to Your Excellency, on behalf of Myanmar delegation and on my own behalf, our warm congratulations on your well-deserved election to the presidency of the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly. We are confident that under your wise and able leadership our deliberations will produce fruitful results.

Allow me also to take this opportunity to express my delegation's appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Ali Abdussalam Treki of Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

United Nations Reform

Mr. President,

It is no doubt that the United Nations is the best forum in practicing multilateralism in addressing the challenges facing the world today. The near universal participation of the world's nations in this global body is a living testimony. At the heart of its Charter lies the maintenance of international peace and security as the main noble purpose of the United Nations, which all Member States are committed to strive for.

While the United Nations has been devoting the larger fraction of its attention to maintaining international peace and security, the new form of global challenges such as climate change, poverty, hunger, water and energy insecurity have emerged demanding the international community's urgent and careful actions. At the same time, our mankind's common dream of making the world a prosperous, peaceful, just and secure place remains elusive. The world today is still full of inequalities, injustice, conflicts, instance of use of force, interference in internal affairs and attempts to impose domination on developing nations.

Against this backdrop, the pre-eminent role of the United Nations in advancing peace, security and development must be asserted and enhanced in order to effectively address these daunting challenges. We therefore wish to stress the pressing need for strengthening the United Nations with speedy reform measures adapting to the present day realities to make it more democratic and effective to meet the growing challenges.

In this regards, Myanmar firmly believes that any reform effort must be aimed at strengthening the central role of the United Nations in global governance. We share the common view that the United Nations must be reformed to reflect the increasing membership of the United Nations and to push for an internal reform measures, including the revitalization of the General Assembly and reform of the Security Council. We share the view that the reform of the Security Council must be designed to make it more transparent, more efficient and more accountable. We also support the idea of expanding both categories of the membership of the Security Council.

Millennium Development Goals

Mr. President,

With only five years away from the target deadline, the international community must step up its efforts to realize the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. We therefore

welcome the successful convening of the High-Level Plenary Meeting on MDGs and its sideline activities last week here in New York. While important improvements have been made globally, progress towards achieving our targeted MDGs is not sufficient as yet. The progress remains uneven and varies from region to region. While national governments have the primary responsibility to ensure progress international community must help by creating an environment that would enable developing countries to make firmer stride in their road to development. The international assistance plays an important catalytic role in the developing countries' efforts in attaining their development goals.

We, therefore, wish to emphasize here that indiscriminate fulfillment of developed countries to their official development assistance (ODA) commitments, increased investment flows, market access and resolution of debt problems are essential to enable the developing countries to realize the MDGs targets. It is about time that the unjust economic coercive measures and trade embargos that are hampering the attainment of MDGs and development of the developing countries hurting the people be removed. We are pleased to inform that despite challenges, Myanmar has made certain progress in achieving most of the eight MDGs in varying degrees, especially in such as poverty alleviation, food security and promotion of education and health.

Disarmament

Mr. President,

As a party to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) and to the Treaty on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ), Myanmar has all along recognized the legitimate right of every state to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. However, we firmly oppose the proliferation or production of nuclear weapons and strongly support any efforts leading towards the realization of the vision of a nuclear weapons free world.

We, therefore, heartily welcome the signing of the new START treaty by the leaders of the United States and the Russian Federation with a view to reducing their respective nuclear arsenals. It gave us hope and expectation for the elimination of nuclear weapons and further reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms. We also join other in calling for early entry into force and full implementation of the START treaty.

Transnational Crimes/ Pandemic Diseases

Mr. President,

In our noble fight against the growing transnational crimes and terrorism, no single country can act alone. It would require a global solution and concerted actions of the world's nations. Myanmar unequivocally condemns all forms and manifestation of terrorism. We are working closely with the international community in strengthening our efforts and cooperation under the regional and multilateral frameworks to prevent and combat terrorism and transnational crimes, such as illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons and cyber crime. We are also working together with our fellow ASEAN Member States to step up efforts in dealing with prevention, control, preparedness and response to pandemic diseases in our region.

Climate Change

Mr. President,

The issue of Climate Change has become a pressing global challenge threatening the humankind. The environmental problem knows no national boundaries. No country can be insulated from the consequences of climate change. Unprecedented frequency and severity of recent natural disasters such as earthquake in Haiti, floods in China and Pakistan and heat waves around the world are clearly testifying the consequences of global climate change. Myanmar was also a victim of climate change when it was hit in May 2008 by the devastating Cyclone Nargis, the strongest ever in the course of our history. After over two years, we are pleased to say that we have already passed the emergency relief stage and successfully built back better in the effected areas thorough our massive reconstruction efforts together with the United Nations, ASEAN and international community. I wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the international community for all the humanitarian assistances rendered to Myanmar in responding to this natural disaster.

In addressing the pressing global issue of climate change, we need to redouble our efforts not only in reducing harmful emissions but also in providing financial resources and transfer of technology to developing countries in order to take effective mitigating and adaptation measures. Though industrialized countries are mainly responsible for the climate change, the developing countries are the ones most severely affected by its consequences. Myanmar therefore believes that any approach to addressing the climate change must be based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

We, therefore, look forward to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Cancun, Mexico later this year. We hope that the forthcoming negotiations in Cancun Conference will result in fruitful outcomes that will translate into concrete action of the commitments made by the developed countries to reduce substantive emissions and towards assisting developing countries in their mitigating and adaptation efforts.

National Electoral Process

Mr. President,

Taking this opportunity, may I apprise briefly this august Assembly of ongoing political developments in my own country, Myanmar.

Today, Myanmar is at the critical phase of its political transformation process. The multi-party democracy general elections are all set to be held in Myanmar on 7th November 2010, as the fifth step of our charted political roadmap.

A total of 37 political parties including those representing various ethnic nationalities groups will be taking part in the elections. Over 3000 candidates will be contesting for a total of 1171 seats at the Peoples' Parliament, National Parliament and State/Region Parliaments. Such a large participation made it crystal clear that the elections become virtually inclusive. Political parties have already started their campaign activities. The people will exercise their democratic right to elect the representatives of their own choice who can serve their interest better.

With its ample experiences and lessons learnt in holding multiparty general elections in the past history, Myanmar is confident in its ability to conduct the elections in an orderly manner. Whatever the challenges facing us, we are committed to do our best for the successful holding of the free and fair general elections for the best interest of the country and its people.

As our new State Constitution subscribes to the present foreign policy, we believe that the new Government to be emerged after the elections will also continue to embrace the policy of maintaining and strengthening friendly relations with all nations and to work more closely with the United Nations. Myanmar looks forward to strengthening closer engagements with the international community in the post-election era.

I thank you, Mr. President.