

**Statement to be delivered by His Excellency Ambassador Min Thein,
Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
at the 20th session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial
Development Organization**

(28 November 2023, Vienna)

Madam Vice President,

At the outset, my delegation congratulates Her Excellency Ambassador Debora Lepre, Permanent Representative of Italy on her election as the President of the 20th session of the General Conference of UNIDO. I also congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your respective elections. We assure our full support to the Bureau with the confidence that this session will achieve fruitful outcomes under your able leadership.

I also wish to express our appreciation to the outgoing President Ambassador Mohamed Mezghani, former Permanent Representative of Tunisia, and members of his bureau for their outstanding works during the previous session.

While thanking Director-General Gerd Muller for his opening remarks at the conference, my delegation recognizes his leadership role and reform initiatives for the better performance of the organization since the day one of his assumption of office. We also appreciate the Director-General and the Secretariat for the excellent arrangement in organizing this General Conference.

Madam Vice President,

Myanmar associates itself with the statement delivered by the Ambassador of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and I wish to add the following remarks in our national capacity.

Myanmar recognizes the important role UNIDO plays for developing countries helping them to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 9 by pursuing inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID).

My delegation commends the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) endorsing the new UNIDO Operational Strategy for LDCs for the period of 2022-2031. The Strategy was developed in close alignment with the Doha Programme of Action and its six key focus areas for action.

Under the newly adopted operational strategy, we have learned that UNIDO will support LDCs to build capacities through technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and apprenticeships, and adopt the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies. UNIDO will also support LDCs for their structural transformation and to enhance international trade and regional integration.

In addition, UNIDO will help LDCs in addressing climate change, environmental degradation, recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic and building resilience against shocks, and continue to leverage support LDCs in mobilizing international solidarity, reinvigorated global partnerships and innovative tools and instruments.

At this point, I would like to call upon all development partners to support UNIDO in the implementation of its new operational strategy for LDCs, leaving no country behind.

Madam Vice President,

In the post-Covid-19 era, the government of Myanmar has prioritised food sufficiency, better transport, education promotion, health and longevity and adequate

power supply in promoting the State economy and socioeconomic life of the entire people of Myanmar, amid various challenges and difficulties.

The government successfully steered the State away from economic downturns in the 2022-2021 financial year, and achieved 3.4 percent growth of GDP in the 2022-23 fiscal year. Myanmar anticipates 4 percent growth of GDP in the current 2023-24 fiscal year.

The Ministry of Industry is exerting efforts for industrial development in Myanmar aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDGs 1, 8, 9 and 12. The Ministry is planning and implementing the development of industrial zones and clusters formation while creating an environment conducive to innovation and promoting resource efficiency, renewable energy consumption and waste management.

To develop an inclusive business, the Ministry is raising awareness of green industry and circular economy, promoting gender equality, social inclusion and fair labour practices as well as MSMEs and "One Rural-One product (OROP) project" while fostering entrepreneurs for innovation and technological advancement.

The Ministry of Industry adopted the National Textile Policy in June 2022 with the assistance of GIZ. It has also been implementing the MSMEs program in order to develop MSMEs in the Food Processing and Packaging Industry. Additionally, a material processing industry working group was established under the Ministry to develop a material processing industry development plan.

To this end, I would like to seek UNIDO's technical assistance to Myanmar, through a new country programme and its new operational strategy, for the interests of the people of Myanmar.

Madam Vice President,

In conclusion, I wish to reaffirm Myanmar's commitment to strengthening cooperation with UNIDO and our development partners, to advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development while striving to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

I thank you.