

**Aarhus Convention; MOP-5, Maastricht**

**Agenda item 6. Promotion of the Convention and relevant developments and interlinkages**

**(c) Global and regional developments on issues related to Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**

**Myanmar's Statement By Ms. Khin Thida Tin  
Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry  
1<sup>st</sup> July 2014**

**Mr. Chairman, Excellencies,**

**Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**A very Good Morning;**

First and foremost, allow me to extend my warmest greetings to you all. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and on my own behalf I would like to express my deep honour and pleasure for being invited to this truly important Meeting of the Aarhus Convention.

**Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The protection of the environment is placed high on our country's agenda. To address the environmental problems in the country, the Government has made many efforts. Some of them are adoption of Environment Policy, Environmental Conservation Law, Environmental Rules, and establishment of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry in 2011 and the Department of Environmental Conservation under the Ministry in 2012 respectively.

To deal with Myanmar's recent developments in the area of environmental conservation, it is mentioned in the State Constitution that State shall protect and conserve the natural environment. And every citizen has responsibility to help the State in protection and conservation of natural environment.

As we have opened Myanmar to outside world, a number of business and industries are now planning to make investment in Myanmar, some are already investing, and we have a firm policy to achieve sustainable development, of course, through Green Economy.

During the past 30 months, the Myanmar Government has undertaken four phases of reform process with momentum; namely political reforms, economic reforms, public administrations reforms and private sector development reforms. We are now transforming our society to an ever-learning society,

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar highlighted to lay down a new policy for economic development in parallel with environmental conservation. We, therefore, have the obligations to successfully implement Green Economy in accordance with the directive of the President.

As we all know, the developing countries still lack technology and capacity to address the environmental issues. Those countries obviously are in need of capacity building.

For Myanmar, actually this is really challenging in terms of lacking access to information and capacity building. Therefore, We are expecting to strengthen our capacity to develop a useful and rare link between environmental and human rights.

This Aarhus Convention reflects our interest and commitment to review and assess environmental related projects in Myanmar. Myanmar is committed to cooperate with international community to protect the environment.

Before I conclude, I wish to stress that Myanmar attaches great importance to the Aarhus Convention. We have no doubt that the outcome of this meeting will have far reaching effect on the timely implementation of the Convention.

Thank you.