

**Statement by**  
**Miss Suchada Thaibunthao**  
**Deputy Director – General**  
**Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA)**  
**for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum**  
**27-28 January 2014**  
**Nay Pyi Taw**

His Excellency Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and  
Economic Development of Myanmar,  
Excellencies,  
All Development Partners  
Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I would like to thank the  
Chairman for giving me the floor. May I express my appreciation to the  
Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for its efforts in  
organizing the Second Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum.  
I also would like to congratulate the Government of Myanmar for its hard  
working to achieve the overall targets outlined in the Framework on Economic  
and Social Reform (FESR), which are to be aligned with Nay Pyi Taw Accord  
Action Plan.

With the flow of development cooperation offers to Myanmar coming  
from all directions, today's Forum is very timely and important to ensure effective  
and coordinated implementation of development cooperation, which should be  
complement with Myanmar's own national development priorities. Thailand is  
fully committed to support Myanmar's reform and development. We have long  
been Myanmar's development partner. And we intend to carry on this strong  
partnership.

Realizing that Human Capital is the prime mover for socio and economic reform and development of Myanmar, Thailand has provided technical cooperation focus on Human Resources Development to Myanmar since 1961 giving priorities areas in agriculture, public health, and education sectors. Since then, Thailand has continuously rendered cooperation in the areas of our expertise to meet the needs of Myanmar. In 1988, Myanmar and Thailand established the bilateral cooperation mechanism through the Consultation Meeting on Technical Cooperation. The mechanism focuses on demand driven approach.

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

As a close neighbour of Myanmar, we place great emphasis on building connectivity through infrastructure development, especially along the border areas. Enhancing connectivity between the two countries is part of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity that will help create job opportunities and promote better living conditions not only for the Myanmar people but also for the ASEAN as a whole. The Dawei Special Economic Zone is a golden gate of infrastructure development project, comprising world-class deep sea port, industrial estates and transportation link to Thailand, which will greatly enhance regional connectivity network.

Thailand has also responded to the global development agendas particularly the achievement of MDGs and Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and also the result of the meeting on Aid Effectiveness “Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in November 2011. Seeing herself as a New Development Partner, the Royal Thai Government has given her commitment to these development agendas and to ensure Policy and Plan Alignment, Inclusive development partnerships, Ownership, Focus on results, Transparency and Aid Harmonization in her programme delivery.

Excellencies,  
All Development Partners  
Distinguished delegates,

The successful meeting of the Seventh Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation in November 2013 and the Fourteenth Consultation on Technical Cooperation in early of January 2014 are another significant milestones of the two countries. Thailand continues to support Myanmar in various areas such as Human Resources Development Programme, Tourism Development Programme, Food Security Programme, Investment Promotion Programme. It is undoubtedly that our concrete collaboration has been continued far and wide.

Last but not least, Thailand also encourages other development partners, not only the North – South Cooperation but also to support the South-South Cooperation. Apart from bilateral cooperation, Thailand has also extended technical cooperation to exchange knowledge and learn from each other's experience and best practices under regional and sub-regional frameworks such as ACMECS, BIMSTEC, GMS, and ASEAN. These cooperation frameworks will complement the efforts toward the integration into ASEAN Community in 2015.

In closing, Thailand views this meeting as a good opportunity for the Development Partners of Myanmar to strengthen our cooperation and work together to support the sustainable development of this beautiful country. We stand ready to work with Myanmar Government, UN families and other Development Partners under the North-South-South/South-South-South cooperation or triangular cooperation programme in reaching sustainable **“Prosperity of Myanmar in the future”**

**Thank you very much.**