

**MDCF Closing Statement by
Putu Kamayana
Head, Extended Mission in Myanmar
Asian Development Bank
Nay Pyi Taw, 28 January 2014**

Honorable Union Minister, Excellencies, Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to echo my colleagues in congratulating the Government of Myanmar for successfully organizing the 2nd MDCF. The progress achieved in the quality and inclusiveness of the discussions and our dialogue since last year is truly remarkable.

I wish to share with you some of my takeaways from the panel discussions:

- there is strong potential for benefits from enhanced coordination between DPs, the government, and other stakeholders, in particular the private sector and civil society;
- there is a commitment from DPs to strengthen communications and knowledge sharing with the business community and NGOs on key strategies and projects, and to integrate these key stakeholders into DP activities;
- the panel discussions highlighted the multisector elements of all key challenges facing Myanmar;
- and related to this, the need for DPs and government to break out of traditional "sector silos" and take a more integrated and synergistic approach to developing and implementing programs and projects;
- to ensure that rural development activities focus on developing linkages between rural and urban areas, with full engagement with the private sector and civil society;

These main findings are fully in line with ADB's Long Term Strategic Framework (Strategy 2020) and ADB's Myanmar Interim Country Partnership Strategy. We are committed to supporting them.

Finally, we welcome Your Excellency's commitment to review and streamline the procedures for formulating, approving, implementing and monitoring DP-financed programs and projects in order to identify ways to streamline and accelerate decision making, and speed up implementation of assistance programs.

There is already a substantial amount of development assistance agreed between Government and DPs and under implementation. And the volume of assistance is expected to grow even faster from now on.

We wish you continued success to achieve your ambitious reform agenda. Thank you.