

**Statement by Mr. Htin LYNN, Director-General, International Organizations and Economic
Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Leader of the Myanmar Delegation to the World Humanitarian Summit

At the Announcement Plenary

(May 24, 2016, Istanbul)

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Leaders of Delegation, Ladies and Gentlemen;

At the outset, I would like to express my delegation's sincere thanks and appreciation to Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for his wisdom in steering us to this important summit. I would also like to thank Under-Secretary-General Stephen O'Brien and his United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) team, for their untiring efforts, from the preparation to the materialization of this timely gathering. My delegation is also grateful to the Government of the Republic of Turkey for its generosity and excellent arrangements for the Summit.

Mr. Chairman,

Myanmar is marked with a strong culture of humanitarian action. The floods in Myanmar last year saw a huge spontaneous outpouring of generosity from private individuals, local communities, religious groups, youth and local CSOs. In fact, the private sector worked closely with the Government and the International organizations in addressing both short term humanitarian needs and longer term recovery efforts. Public-private partnership for disaster response has strengthened, and the private sector, which was the first to respond in many remote areas, has become central to our natural disaster management efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

Giving is a way of life for our people. People make donations all the time and do volunteer work to help those less fortunate than themselves. This generosity has been recognized in the "World Giving Index" which earlier this year ranked Myanmar number one in the world in terms of the generosity of its people.

Myanmar's strong tradition of humanitarian action in times of conflict has been recognized. Humanitarian partners including the United Nations, ICRC and MSF are authorized access to areas beyond Government control to provide life-saving support to vulnerable civilians. Myanmar will maintain this inclusive and compassionate approach even in times of conflict and insecurity. We will leave no one behind.

Mr. Chairman,

This important Summit will usher us into a better, holistic and of course, ambitious approach to all humanitarian issues everywhere in the world.

As Myanmar is one of the most disaster-prone countries, we will be concentrating our efforts on dealing with Natural Disasters and Climate Change. To this end Myanmar is committed to:-

- Accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;
- We are also committed to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements;
- We will also improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for disaster and climate-related risks by investing in data, analysis and early warning, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in early action.

Mr. Chairman,

Gender Equality and Women Empowerment is also high on our Agenda.
As such, Myanmar is committed to:-

- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome documents of their review conferences for all women and adolescent girls in crisis settings.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.
