



MYANMAR

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Statement by

H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

at the

29th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly

on the follow-up to the

Programme of Action of the International Conference on
Population and Development beyond 2014

69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

(New York, 22 September 2014)

Statement by H.E. U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the 29th Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development-ICPD beyond 2014
(22 September 2014)

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

1. First of all, allow me to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the 29th Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development-ICPD beyond 2014.
2. My delegation would like to commend the Secretary-General for his comprehensive and forward-looking report (A/69/62) entitled "*Framework of Actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014*". We also thank the Secretariat for providing us the Index Report on the interactive debate of the 47th session of the Commission on Population and Development.
3. My delegation views the Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/62) as a good basis that deserves our careful consideration. We are pleased to see that the report addresses in a wide-ranging manner to enhance individual capabilities and resilience and to ensure sustainable development. We noted that human rights and equality define the analytical approach to the report. In this regard, my delegation also wishes to stress the importance of the right to development, adequate health care and quality education for the people in many developing countries. My delegation shares the view highlighted in the conclusion of the report that investing in individual rights, capabilities and dignity, across the multiple sectors of the ICPD and throughout the life-course, is the foundation of sustainable development.

4. We cannot agree more that systematic participation of all stakeholders in crafting responses as well as partnership and global leadership through the United Nations are of paramount importance in facing the development challenges. In this regard, my delegation is pleased to reiterate its support for the regional plan of action for further implementation of the ICPD programme of Action.

Mr. President,

5. At the national level, the Myanmar National Commission on Population and Development has already endorsed the findings of the ICPD Beyond 2014 Global Review. The ICPD Review recognized the significant progress that Myanmar has achieved in some areas within the ICPD mandate. At the same time, we also recognize the need for us to exert more efforts to fill gaps constraining the achievement of ICPD and MDG goals. We believe that these setbacks would be overcome through enhanced cooperation and assistance by our international partners.

Mr. President,

6. Taking this opportunity, I wish to inform this Assembly that for the first time in over 30 years, Myanmar has successfully conducted a nationwide census from 29 March to 10 April 2014 with a view to secure up-to-date and accurate basic information on its population and households. The results of the census will enable us to make better planning, development and improvement of the people's quality of life. In this regard, my delegation wishes to reiterate its gratitude to UNFPA and all donor countries for their financial and technical assistance in making the census project a great success.

7. The initial outcome of this population and housing census revealed that Myanmar's population is 51.42 million. Female population constitutes 26.59 million whereas male population is about 24.82 million. As we have more female population, we put

greater emphasis and strengthen activities for all-round development of women, children and youths in our national development programmes. In addition to population data, this census has also recorded data crucial to population and development including, among others, age structure, fertility, morbidity and mortality, migration and household size.

8. The successful collection of such data will contribute to our efforts to implement the remaining gaps relating to issue of population and development and will bring Myanmar a step closer to reaching the national and international population and development goals.

9. In concluding, I would like to express Myanmar's reaffirmation of support for the regional review outcomes which should be taken into account further implementation of the ICPD beyond 2014 and their integration into the Post 2015 Development Agenda.

10. I thank you.
