

**Statement by
H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Myanmar
At the 110th Session of the IOM Council
(29 November 2019)**

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Director General,
Distinguished Ambassadors and Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chair, on your election as the Chair of the 110th IOM Council. I also take this opportunity to congratulate other distinguished Bureau Members on their election.

We assure you of our full support and cooperation. We also express our gratitude to the previous Chair for his contribution and excellent work during his term in office.

My delegation would like to welcome the Lebanese Republic as the new member of IOM and the grant of observer status to the International Commission on Missing Persons.

We acknowledge that IOM has new and expanding mandate and responsibilities especially after the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

In this regard, we commend the Director General for his leadership, vision and effort for the reform to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the organization.

We believe that collective effort is essential in strengthening IOM, and we are supportive of consensual approach in its reform agenda.

We are of the view that international cooperation must be enhanced for effective migration governance. The issues of migration and development must be addressed comprehensively through bilateral, regional and multilateral approaches. Myanmar attaches great importance to the

promotion of regular, safe and orderly migration and protection of the legitimate rights and interest of migrant workers.

Mr. Chair,

Let me express my sincere thanks to the IOM for its continued assistance and cooperation extended to Myanmar particularly in the areas of migrant protection, emergency preparedness and post crisis, labour migration and skills development, and migration governance.

To facilitate safe and regular migration, a number of pre-departure orientation courses have been conducted with the support of IOM for potential migrant workers. In cooperation with IOM and ILO, 15 Migrant resources centers have also been established so far all over the country to disseminate information of safe migration.

And also with the collaboration of IOM and other development partners, Myanmar is implementing the five-year national Plan of Actions for the Management of International Labour Migration (2018-2022) in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

Promoting the mainstreaming of migrant issues into Government policy and programmes and the protection of migrants within Myanmar and in their destination countries is a national priority for the Government.

We share the view that migration brings benefits in boosting growth and innovation in both host and source countries. It contributes positive development outcomes and plays an important role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Chair,

Let me take this opportunity to touch briefly on Myanmar's cooperation and effort for the repatriation of the displaced persons who are currently living in camps in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh.

We have been working relentlessly in good faith for the speedy repatriation of the displaced persons. Myanmar is ready to receive verified returnees in a voluntary, safe and dignified manner in accordance with the

bilateral arrangements reached with Bangladesh. We are also working with UNDP and UNHCR through the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Myanmar and UNDP and UNHCR to facilitate the repatriation. In order to create conducive environment for the returnees, we are working closely not only with UNDP and UNHCR but also with our ASEAN friends as well as regional partners. We are confident that, with the concerted efforts of all stakeholders and cooperation of the international community, durable solution can be achieved.

In conclusion, I would like to assure you of Myanmar's support for IOM's efforts to address the issues of global migration. We are fully committed to promote regular, safe and orderly migration. In this regard, we look forward to working closely with the IOM and other relevant organizations.

I thank you, Mr. Chair
