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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and, with reference to the Secretary General’s Note No.UNW/2019/004 dated 15 April 2019, has the honour to enclose herewith the information relating to the implementation of the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/234 on “Women in development” in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN Women) the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 11 June 2019

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
220 East 42nd Street, Room 18-97, New York, NY 10017
Email: Jocelyn.chu@unwomen.org
Myanmar National Committee on Women - MNCW is formed as a national mechanism to implement 9 objectives for gender equality and women empowerment included in SDG Goal No. 5, and the UN Convention of CEDAW. The committee was formed only with respective government departments in the past.

In order to instantaneously carry out the programs of committee across the whole country in full swing, MNCW was reformed again in 2018 to enhance the collaboration and engagement by working together with non-government organizations and civil society organizations. In that newly reformed committee, it is collaborative working widely with 5 NGOs and 2 CSOs which have been actively implementing in women's rights including with the Association for Prevention, Care and Protection of Abandoned Children — APCPAC.

To be fully and harmoniously development of women in every respective sector, a National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NASPAW) 2013-2022 has been implemented focusing on 12 priority areas.

During the remaining 4 years of the targeted plan period, it will be continue to leverage implementing with full swing through the 4 technical working groups which are named as Violence Against Women and Girls Technical Working Group, Women’s Participation in Politic and Economic Technical Working Group, Gender Mainstreaming Technical Working Group and Women Peace and Security Technical Working Group.

Moreover, NSPAW (2013-2022) is in the planning stage of to be reviewed. DSW will connect to SDGs and Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan-MSDP and implement innovative methods in reviewing process.
Myanmar submitted CEDAW exceptional report to UNCEDAW committee on 1 February 2019 and Myanmar delegation answered defenses on CEDAW exceptional report.

Myanmar is implementing ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of violence against women (ASEAN RPA on EVAW).

DSW is developing the prevention and Protection of violence against women law (draft) collaborating with UN Gender Theme Group. The prevention and Protection of violence against women law (draft) describes all forms of violence such as sexual violence on women, domestic violence, sexual harassment in work place and public place, violence by harmful traditional violence, tracking disturbance.

DSW is developing Prostitution Law (draft) collaboration with relevant Departments, UN organizations and women organizations.

With regards to Violence against Women, Delegte of General Secretary of Violence against Women in Conflicts, Ms. Pramilia Patten and Permanent Representative of Myanmar had signed on a joint communiqué of Violence against women in conflict on 7 December, 2018. In the joint statement, there are 6 priority areas for prevention of sexual violence and thus it should be drawn up the necessary plans by identifying and setting up for effective implementation of those mentioned areas.

Help line was started in November 2016. It is a (24) hours service where survivors can complain through Regions and States. Especially, DSW is solving Gender-based violence cases such as sexual harassment, rape case, domestic violence collaboration with relevant Ministries.

In November 2016, Department of Social Welfare sets up “One Stop Women Support Center” in Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and Lashio for women
and girls survivors affected by violence. DSW will extend OSWSC in Ayeyarwady Region and Kayah State.  

- These centers provide shelter, health care, legal aid, psycho social support and follow-up cash support cooperation with related Ministries.  

- DSW solved (1638) GBV complaint cases from help line, Region and State. Among these cases, DSW provided (46.5) million in legal assistance and (75.5) million in livelihood program for (1104) survivors as of Government budget from November 2016 to April 2019.  

- Under Department of Social Welfare, (11) Schools for Home Science, two Women Development Centers, four Vocational Training Centers for Women and two Centers for Women Care are conducted. These institutes support the development of life security and to prevent human trafficking. Moreover, community based trainings are being conducted for women who are in difficulty in coming to the schools for home science in order to gain livelihood skills, to gain better self-confidence, to reduce poverty and to raise standard of living.  

- Moreover, DSW is conducting community based tailoring trainings, to get job opportunities and be self-reliance for women from rural areas in accordance with the objective of social economic development and poverty reduction.  

Department of Social Welfare is conducting the activities regarding Sexual Gender-based Violence awareness program, Psycho-social support and counseling, Sustainable Livelihood program, providing for job opportunities for Internally Displaced Persons living in shelters in conflict areas of Kachin, Rakhine and Shan.  

- DSW has provided tailoring machine and make up (beauty accessories) and vocational trainings such as, driving trainings, tailoring training, hair
dressing and make up training, mobile phone repairing trainings. Early Childhood Care and Development training, livestock breeding, food and snack training, computer and English training based on public needs.