Country Statement Myanmar
Delivered by Mr. Win Khaing Moe,
Director General under the agenda of
5a) “Guidelines for inclusive technology and innovation policies for sustainable development”
in Asia and the Pacific, Thursday 20 August from 9:00 to 10.30 am (Bangkok time)

Excellencies,
Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary of ESCAP,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. This 3rd session of Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) makes the opportunity time during Covid-19 how to collaborate for the harness technology to address major challenges such as Covid-19.

2. There is a necessary to promote the inclusive science, technology and innovation which is very important for developing countries like Myanmar and other countries since science, technology and innovation (STI) are critical for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3. For these reasons, we have been working robustly on policy formulation to transform the country STI towards a sustainable, evidence-based policy. We call it Co-creation process with UNESCAP and Myanmar.

4. Allow me to share with you our experiences and best practices on inclusive STI policy formulation process that is a starting point to continue STI implementation to the Sustainable Development Goals, especially how we seek to integrate STI across full spectrum of three dimensions of economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability. ESCAP provides us at the national level STI policy formulation process by giving an advisory service, giving the capacity buildings activity to the co-creating group, setting out the priority areas, the national consultations and facilitating the policy drafting process. Five sectors are selected as priority to spark STI support to such sectors’ need and challenges such as health/social, ICT and services, natural resources and energy, agriculture, manufacturing. Our goal is to be “Myanmar making the next ASEAN tiger”. We are taking several steps towards policy drafting to get as national policy as well as to create enabling environment for STI in cross-sectorial policy, education, infrastructure, finance, institutions, human capital, knowledge and data.
5. I would like to recommend that the secretariat supports continuously to Myanmar and the member States to develop STI policies, strategies and road maps for the SDGs, in order to effectively harness STI for sustainable development. The secretariat needs to give priority to STI and provide the development of multi-stakeholder technology alliances to address the challenges of priorities’ sectors.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. Please allow me to highlight some key elements that Myanmar views on inclusive technology and innovation policies and strategies, it is better that the secretariat needs to provide the member states in promoting human-centred and inclusive technology and innovation policies through facilitating the sharing of best practices and learning; holding forums to facilitate regional collaboration; supports research that can inform more inclusive technology and innovation policies, including through research and policy networks; building policymaking capacities; analysing the inclusive dimension of science, technology and innovation policies; and making tools available for promoting and assessing inclusive technology and innovation policies.

7. To achieve the inclusive technology and innovation policies for sustainable development, Myanmar believes that we all need to work together at all levels through seamless collaboration between global and regional partnership. This Committee on Information and Communications, Science, Technology and Innovation at ESCAP can play important role to facilitate the successful development of inclusive STI policies for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and enhance the networking in the region linking with the multi-stakeholder technology alliances at the global level.

Thank you for your kind attention.