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High-level panel calls for further anti corruption reforms and an independent Anti-Corruption Commission in Myanmar in line with UNCAC requirements

Naypyitaw (Myanmar), 27 January 2014 – A high-level seminar panel recommended further Anti Corruption reforms and an independent Anti-Corruption Commission in Myanmar to ensure that ongoing legal and institutional reforms are in full compliance with requirements of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

The panel emphasized the importance of actively engaging the private sector and civil society in anti-corruption initiatives and “effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability.”

"Corruption is a common menace facing every country in the World. Strengthening exchanges and cooperation in anti-corruption have become an inevitable choice of the international community," said H.E. Dr. Tun Shin, Attorney General of the Republic of Myanmar.

As Attorney General, Dr. Tun Shin will refer these recommendations to the Organizing Action Committee against Corruption, which was created after Myanmar ratified the UNCAC in December 2012.

Organized by the United Nations Office on Drug and Crimes (UNODC) and the Attorney General of the Republic of Myanmar, the high-level National Seminar on Implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption included top Government officials and anti-corruption authorities from Myanmar, Bhutan, Malaysia, and Singapore, and representatives from the UN Development Programme (UNDP), UNODC, the World Bank, private sector companies BG Group and Telenor, and the Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in East Asia and the Pacific.

The seminar, which aimed to assist Myanmar as it prepares for the upcoming UNCAC Implementation Review and becomes fully compliant with UNCAC, provided a platform for participants to discuss legal reforms, strategic planning, institutional requirements as well as share national experiences and recommendations for implementing the UNCAC.

"Without real and serious action, the Convention will be some nice words and good ideas on paper; a paper tiger without real tooth and claws. At this critical juncture in Myanmar this Seminar has an important role to play in turning this paper tiger into a real and effective tool for Myanmar as it updates its governance infrastructures," said Jason Eligh, UNODC Country Manager, Myanmar.

Since the election of President Thei Sein in 2011, the Government of Myanmar has engaged in important legal reforms and modernization of its laws. In line with President Thein Sein's calls for a "clean government", Myanmar ratified the UNCAC in December 2012. It came into force on 20 January 2013.

Click [here](#) to view full seminar recommendations.

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