

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY DIALOGUE
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION, THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
AND
THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN**

**JOINT STATEMENT
January, 2018
Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar**

H.E. U Ohn Winn, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC), the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Tadahiko Ito, the State Minister of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) held the first Japan-Myanmar Environmental Policy Dialogue on 15 January 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw to discuss accomplishments and plans for Japan-Myanmar environmental cooperation. At the conclusion of the dialogue, Union Minister, U Ohn Winn and State Minister Ito announced a common view to enhance bilateral environmental cooperation.

Recognizing the importance of strengthening comprehensive environmental cooperation between MOEJ and MONREC, both sides confirmed the finalization of the drafting of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) in the field of environment between Ministry of the Environment of Japan and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and reaffirmed the intentions to sign the MOC at the earliest possible time.

Both sides also welcomed the Japan Myanmar Environment Week including this policy dialogue, the first Myanmar waste management workshop and the seminar on environmental infrastructure and technology, is held in Myanmar as the first Japan Environment Week. Both sides recognized the importance of environmental technology and public and private sectors' engagement for the technology diffusion and agreed to arrange that public and private participants in Japan in the field of climate change, waste management, and water treatment will share their technology and know-how at the seminar.

Both sides confirmed the recent progress of the Japan-Myanmar environmental cooperation, in the field of climate change including the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), water quality, and waste management, and reaffirmed their intentions to continue their efforts to promote cooperative activities including public and private sector activities.

Both sides affirmed their positions to conduct cooperative activities as described below in the area of waste management and environmental impact assessment (EIA) and to continue the discussion with the view to deepen the relationship between MOEJ and MONREC.

Waste Management

MOEJ and MONREC recognized the importance of the mutual understanding of stakeholders regarding waste management and agreed to start capacity development activities for the stakeholders. In addition to the first workshop in this Japan-Myanmar Environment Week,

both sides agreed to hold the second workshop for the capacity development of the stakeholders during this year. MOEJ also committed to invite stakeholders in Myanmar to Japan for a study of waste management.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

MOEJ and MONREC recognized the urgent need to train examiners for EIA review in Myanmar to review the EIA of the projects in Myanmar in an appropriate time, and welcomed JICA's continuous assistance for Capacity Development of the EIA System. Both sides agreed that a part of MOEJ and MONREC's cooperative activities will be delivered in cooperation with JICA and that the details of the input including dispatch of Japanese EIA resource persons to the training activities and sharing of the knowledge products regarding environmental technology and experience in EIA, will be discussed intensively by May 2018.

Both sides agreed to continue to develop the opportunity such as the seminar on environmental infrastructure and technology, to share the knowledge and know-how of the Japanese technology with private sectors' engagement.

Both sides agreed to hold a second policy dialogue between MOEJ and MONREC at the end of this year or early next year in Japan.

(end)