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**Switzerland
and
Myanmar**

Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar concerning technical and financial cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Bern, 2 June 2015

Entry into force: *20 October 2015 by notification, in accordance with article 9*

Authentic texts: *English, German and Myanmar*

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**Suisse
et
Myanmar**

Accord-cadre entre le Conseil fédéral suisse et le Gouvernement de la République de l'Union du Myanmar concernant la coopération technique et financière et l'aide humanitaire. Berne, 2 juin 2015

Entrée en vigueur : *20 octobre 2015 par notification, conformément à l'article 9*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

Framework Agreement

between

The Swiss Federal Council

and

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Concerning

Technical and Financial Cooperation

and

Humanitarian Assistance

The Swiss Federal Council (hereinafter referred to as "Switzerland") and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (hereinafter referred to as "Myanmar"), hereinafter "the Parties",

intending to reinforce the existing ties of friendship between the two countries;

desirous of strengthening these relations and of developing a fruitful humanitarian, technical and financial cooperation between the two countries;

recognising that the development of this technical and financial cooperation as well as the humanitarian assistance will contribute to improve social and economic conditions in Myanmar in order to promote further the development of democracy and a socially and ecologically adequate market economy;

aware that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is committed to pursue the reforms in order to establish a democratic society including the respect of human rights;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1 Basis of Cooperation

Respect for rule of law, democratic principles, human rights and fundamental freedoms as set out in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights inspires the internal and external policies of the Parties and constitutes an essential element on an equal footing with the objectives of this Framework Agreement (hereafter referred to as "Agreement").

Article 2 Objectives

- 2.1 The Parties shall promote, within the framework of their respective national legislation, the realisation of technical and financial cooperation projects as well as humanitarian assistance projects in Myanmar. These projects shall contribute to support the reform process in Myanmar and to mitigate the social and economic costs of

adjustment. The projects shall also contribute to an inclusive development for all the population in Myanmar.

- 2.2 The objective of this Agreement is to establish a framework of rules and procedures for the conduct and implementation of these projects.

Article 3

Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the term "SDC" means the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (which includes Humanitarian Aid) of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.
- (b) the term "SECO" means State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs.
- (c) specific projects / programmes and other joint activities under this Agreement are hereinafter referred to as "Projects".
- (d) the term "Implementing Agency" means any public authority and public or private juridical body as well as any organisation, whether national, international or multilateral, accepted by both Parties and mandated by Switzerland to implement specific projects referred to in Article 8.4 below.
- (e) the term "Commodities" means goods, material, vehicles, machinery, equipment and other commodities made available by Switzerland or the Implementing Agencies for projects under this Agreement or any other commodities delivered to Myanmar under the specific agreements regarding the projects.

Article 4

Forms of Cooperation

Forms

- 4.1 The cooperation can take the form of technical, scientific and cultural cooperation, financial and economic cooperation as well as humanitarian assistance. These forms can take place in parallel or in sequence.

4.2 Such cooperation and / or assistance may be carried out on a bilateral basis or in cooperation with other donors, national, international or multilateral organisations.

Technical, scientific and cultural cooperation

4.3 Technical, scientific and cultural cooperation shall be carried out in form of know-how transfer through training, consulting or other services or in form of the supply of commodities necessary for the successful implementation of the projects.

4.4 Technical, scientific and cultural cooperation can take the following forms:

- (a) contributions in the form of grants;
- (b) provision of commodities and services;
- (c) provision of personnel or local staff;
- (d) scholarships for studies or training in Myanmar, in Switzerland or in a third country; or
- (e) any other form as mutually agreed by both Parties.

4.5 The projects of technical, scientific and cultural cooperation will in priority be focused on supporting sustainable development i.e. (i) promoting an open and market - based economy;(ii) enhancing an environmentally sound management of natural resources; and (iii) strengthening public administration reforms and social equity.

Financial and Economic cooperation

4.6 The financial and economic cooperation will take the form of financing of commodities and services or contributions to the capital for instance of financial intermediaries. Alternative forms will be considered on a case by case basis.

4.7 The financial and economic cooperation will be provided, depending on the case, in the form of grants, loans or any other form as mutually agreed by both Parties.