

First visit of US Secretary of State will pave way for promoting bilateral relations and provide positive impulses towards building of democratic society in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Nov—*The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission issued a statement today.*

The full text of the statement is as follows:-

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Yangon

Statement by the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission whole-heartedly welcomes the decision by the Heads of State or Government of the Member States of ASEAN that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will take up the rotating Chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2014. This decision is in line with the Charter Provision that “Member States shall have equal rights and obligations under this Charter.”

The Commission has taken the position that Myanmar is willing and able to take up its role as Chairman of the Association. The decision of Heads of State or Government will certainly contribute to the promotion of greater political, security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation among the Member States of ASEAN. The decision, in our view, is also the recognition by the international community that the elected government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has made concrete steps in implementing its policy of good governance, rule of law and respect for human rights in the process of building a democratic society in Myanmar.

The Commission is also heartened by the decision of the United States of America to send its Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton to Myanmar. The country is at a critical juncture in its efforts to build a democratic society by enhancing national unity, economic prosperity, and the promotion of human rights for its people. The support and encouragement by the international community would certainly contribute to this process and must be welcomed.

The Commission hopes that the first visit of the US Secretary of State in 50 years will pave the way for promoting bilateral relations and provide positive impulses towards the building of a democratic society in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Dated: 27th November 2011