PERMANENT MISSION
of the
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
to the United Nations Office
and Other International Organizations in Geneva

MISSION PERMANENTE
de la
REPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DU VIETNAM
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève

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Mr. President,

As a South East Asian country, Vietnam follows closely developments in Myanmar. Vietnam encourages efforts to promote national reconciliation, dialogue and enhance democracy in Myanmar. In this connection, together with other countries of the Association of South East Asia Nations (ASEAN) Vietnam welcomes the announcement by the Government of Myanmar that it would hold a national referendum on the country's constitution in May 2008 to implement Myanmar's the Seven-Step Road Map towards democracy.

Vietnam also supports the cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations to advance the process of national reconciliation. Vietnam appreciates the fact that the Government of Myanmar has invited Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, the United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy and the latest visit took place in March 2008.

For its part, Vietnam has been engaged in dialogue with the Government of Myanmar and other international partners in various ways regarding the issue. But, Vietnam is of the view that the final decision has to be made by the people of Myanmar.

Thank you for your attention./.