



State Counsellor
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

MESSAGE FROM THE STATE COUNSELLOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF
MYANMAR ON THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BIMSTEC

On this auspicious occasion of the 23rd Anniversary of the founding of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), I take great pleasure in extending my warmest felicitations and best wishes to the peoples of BIMSTEC member states.

With its huge markets and rich natural resources, BIMSTEC has vast potential for contributing towards the socio-economic development of the region. Substantial progress has been made during BIMSTEC's 23-year journey since its inception, but there is much that still needs to be done to achieve its aims and purposes, guided by the principles of the 1997 Bangkok declaration.

Myanmar sees BIMSTEC as a key platform for the achievement of peace, prosperity and sustainability in the Bay of Bengal region, and we have been cooperating with fellow member states of BIMSTEC in many areas of common interests. I believe that we will be able to leverage regional cooperation more effectively, and respond to new and emerging challenges, including the current challenge of combating the COVID-19 pandemic, in a spirit of friendship, unity, solidarity and mutual understanding.

I am confident that our collective efforts to enhance partnerships and cooperation among BIMSTEC member states will bring peace and prosperity to all peoples in the region.

Aung San Suu Kyi

Nay Pyi Taw
6 June 2020