



*State Counsellor  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar*

**MESSAGE FROM THE STATE COUNSELLOR  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR ON  
THE 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BIMSTEC**

It is my pleasure to convey my best wishes and warm felicitations to the governments and peoples of BIMSTEC member states on this auspicious day of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).

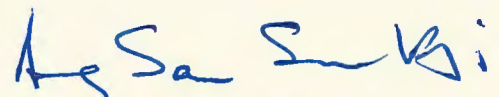
The Bay of Bengal region's strategic location serves as a bridge linking South and Southeast Asia. An abundance of natural and human resources, together with its deep historical linkages and rich cultural heritages, buttress the great potential of the BIMSTEC regional grouping.

Since its inception in 1997, BIMSTEC has been transforming itself into an efficient platform for cooperation to foster peace, prosperity and sustainable development in the region. I believe that unity, friendship and mutual understanding among the member states will enable BIMSTEC to achieve substantial progress in its journey towards the goals enshrined in the 1997 Bangkok Declaration.

On this special day, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar reiterates its continued commitment to contribute to the advancement of the BIMSTEC cooperation framework.

I wish BIMSTEC success in its collective efforts to promote peace and prosperity for all peoples in the region.

**Nay Pyi Taw  
6 June 2019**

  
**Aung San Suu Kyi**