The Second Yangon Stock Exchange Expo Keynote Speech by State Minister Ochi (September 9, 2018, Yangon)

His Excellency U. Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance, U Yin Zaw Myo, Managing Director of Yangon Stock Exchange, representatives from Myanmar government, Distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

Good Morning. I am Takao Ochi, State Minister for Financial Services of Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the invitation to the Second YSX Expo. I am thrilled to speak in front of all of you. Following the successful First YSX EXPO, as you can see that there are a large number of participants and audience here, we are witnessing the enthusiasm for the more vigorous Myanmar's capital market.

Today, I would like to briefly speak about Japan's commitment to the development of Myanmar's capital market.

The establishment of YSX in December 2015 was the consolidated outcome of the long-standing cooperation between Japan and Myanmar. That is why we regard YSX as "the Symbol of Japan-Myanmar friendship" today.

In order to bring YSX into a higher stage, the Government of Japan, together with Daiwa Securities Group and Japan Exchange Group, formulated a comprehensive support plan for the development of Myanmar's capital market, so-called "LIST for Myanmar's Future." In January, we submitted the Plan to Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win.

This Plan includes a wide variety of actions and measures to encourage and facilitate investors and companies to participate in the capital market. So far, we have held four Myanmar Japan Joint Committee meetings led by Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win. Based on the discussions, we are working together to implement the Plan.

For example, Special Task Force for Listing Promotion, so-called STF, was established in April to facilitate listing of the potential companies. STF has been visiting numerous companies to provide advisory and guidance for their listing pathway. Japan will continue to support its activities. I would like to encourage all the senior managers of candidate companies present here today to fully take advantage of STF.

Also, we are working hard to expand the investor base. Numerous seminars have been held for Myanmar investors during the past eight months, having more than 1,000 attendees. we would like to seek your further support so that the growing interests will not remain interests but will result in actual investments.

Right now is the time to plant seeds in the ground. The measures will undoubtedly bear fruit in due course. Later today, Japan will submit the "Progress Report" which outlines the actions taken during the last eight months to Deputy Minister.

We believe that Myanmar's economy will be growing further. The government is now preparing for foreign investors' entry to the capital market, which will occur in the coming months.

STF will accelerate their efforts to reach out to companies amounting to 50, 100, and even more, which contributes to increasing the number of listed companies. With such efforts, I would like to state that we see a bright future in the medium to long-term.

Japan will remain committed to support Myanmar people's strive for developing YSX to build the foundation for becoming one of the most prestigious and leading stock exchanges in Asia.

In addition to building the market infrastructure, capacity building and human resource development are crucial. Therefore, starting from this January until next March, Japan will be receiving about 50 trainees and fellows from the Myanmar government and YSX to participate in the various programs of human resource development.

I hope that all distinguished guests here today will start investing at YSX. Let's support and

share the fruit of both medium and long-term economic prosperity with all the people in Myanmar. Japan will continue and reinforce the actions to further assist YSX as "the Symbol of Japan-Myanmar Friendship" in tandem with Myanmar's people.

To conclude my speech, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win and the Myanmar Government for the continuous cooperation and lasting friendship.

Thank you very much.