

Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations, Geneva.

No. 313/3-27/37

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the latter's Note of 24 April 2007 requesting information concerning "Human Rights and Access to Water", has the honour to provide the information received from the authorities concerned of the Union of Myanmar.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar attaches great importance to the equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation for all Myanmar people especially those who live in rural areas and towards this end it has taken appropriate measures as a national priority.

In this regard, the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races has adopted the rural development policies and access to safe drinking water which is one of the programme in its policies.

The Ministry adopted 10 years plan beginning from fiscal year 2000-2001 to 2009-2010. In implementing the 10 year plan, the Ministry spent the fundings from the Government, the donations received from individual, social welfare organizations, National NGOs and International NGOs.

In 2006-2007, 7911 villages out of 8042 villages in three Tropical Divisions have received safe drinking water. Moreover, 9339 villages out of 15183 villages in 14 States and Divisions are now able to access to safe drinking water. Therefore, 74% of the target plan for the nation as a whole has been achieved in 2006-2007.

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The Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 26 June 2007

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva

