

1st Expert Group Meeting of BIMSTEC on Agriculture Cooperation

15-16 March 2007, Nay Pyi Taw



In the light of emerging issues and challenges confronting the agricultural sector in the BIMSTEC region, be they be the threat of animal diseases, global climatic changes, degrading environment, securing biodiversity and food safety, ensuring free and fair global trade, access to new and emerging technologies and increasing demand for alternative sources of energy, collective and concerted efforts are needed. Myanmar, as a lead country in Agriculture Sector hosted the **1st Expert Group Meeting of BIMSTEC on Agriculture Cooperation** on 15-16 March 2007 at Nay Pyi Taw.

The Meeting was organised in both a Plenary and Bilateral Meetings between Member Countries format. Six areas of Cooperation were identified, namely enhancing the competitiveness of agriculture sector, agricultural research and development, promoting public-private (including cooperatives) partnership for the development of agriculture and agro-processing industries, strengthening socio-economic development in rural community, improving agricultural trade and investment, and developing alternative energy crops.