



**Chairman
State Administration Council
Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

MESSAGE ON THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIMSTEC

On this auspicious and historic occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), I would like to extend, on behalf of the Peoples and Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, warm felicitations and best wishes to the Peoples and Governments of BIMSTEC Member States as well as to the BIMSTEC Secretariat.

Since its inception in 1997 by the Bangkok Declaration, BIMSTEC has been recognized as an intergovernmental organization with great potential for facilitating development and socio-economic wellbeing of the Bay of Bengal Region. Throughout its twenty five years journey of cooperation, the success of BIMSTEC cooperation has been vividly manifested by the tangible and outstanding achievements, especially the adoption of the BIMSTEC Charter and the conclusion of several legal instruments among the Member States.

While the threat of COVID-19 pandemic remains, the global economic recession had been impeded by the negative consequences of conflicts and political instability. BIMSTEC region has no exception to escape from such blow of global challenges. However, I am strongly confident that our cooperation under the BIMSTEC mechanism with solidarity and mutual

understanding will be able to lead the way to have effective economic resilience and recovery.

On this special day of 25th Anniversary, I wish BIMSTEC every success for the future endeavours in promotion and protection of peace and prosperity in the Bay of Bengal Region.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 June 2022