In the inaugural address of the Myanmar Climate Change Alliance (MCCA) Stakeholder Workshop in Nay Pyi Taw, His Excellency U Win Tun, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MoECAF) announced that the Government of Myanmar had approved the formation of a ‘Myanmar Climate Change Alliance Committee’. Under his Chairmanship The Vice Chairs will comprise two deputy ministers whilst the secretary of the committee will be the Director General of the Department of Planning and Statistics. Members will comprise of 28 Directors General of related government line agencies.

This is a significant milestone in establishing the Myanmar Climate Change Alliance and highlights the political will of the government to address climate change. This announcement set the tone for the proceedings of the stakeholder consultation workshop, which saw participation from representatives of 21 ministries, civil society and private sector stakeholders.

Mrs Karine Genty, acting Head of Operations at the Delegation of the European Union in Myanmar, welcomed the news and highlighted how MCCA requires involvement and active contribution of all stakeholders. She encouraged participants in the workshop to familiarise themselves with the aims and objectives of MCCA and to actively engage in and contribute to discussions.

Speaking on behalf of UN-Habitat Country Programme Manager Mr. Bijay Karmacharya for the implementing partners UN Habitat and The United Nations Environment Programme, Senior Advisor U Denzil Abel highlighted the importance of addressing climate change while conveying gratitude to His Excellency Union Minister U Win Tun for his attentive and guiding role in establishing this project.

Over the course of the two days of the stakeholder consultation workshop the participants were introduced to the detailed activities and planned results designed to support Myanmar in developing a climate change strategy, awareness and capacity to tackle climate change. Participants were given the lead in the workshop to comment,
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discuss and provide input and feedback into the framework of activities to ensure that the MCCA is implemented effectively.

U Tin Tun, the Director General of Planning and Statistics Department of MoECAF led the final sessions of the workshop, explaining the proposed institutional set up of the programme highlighting expected roles and responsibilities of the various ministries, civil society and private sector stakeholders on contributing and guiding the programme.

The workshop provided stakeholders with a clear understanding of the activities, planned results and expected roles for the MCCA. The participants enthusiastically engaged in the discussion of activities and programme structures and agreed to coordinate and streamline their activities to ensure effective implementation of the MCCA programme and wider environmental initiatives.

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