**Questionnaire in relation to Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/38/4 on human rights and climate change**

1. **Please describe the impacts of the adverse effects of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of women and girls. Where possible, please share specific examples and stories.**

The Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) of Myanmar that submitted to UNFCCC in 2015 for contributing global climate actions of mitigation and adaptation recognized the relationship between climate change and migration. One of the policy recommendation areas under Myanmar National Climate Change Policy is "Resilient urban and rural settlements" which recognized the potential impacts of climate change on rural-urban migration and the promotion of long-term inclusivity, liveability, economic development and a high quality of life in rural and urban areas.

Climate change (increase in temperature, shorter monsoon season, increase in incidence of cyclones and flooding) impacts the lives of women and men in different ways because of existing inequalities, responsibilities and roles. When Crop failure, reduced yields, reduction in fish catch and changes in the growing season, food availability and livelihoods - Although both men and women will be strongly affected by crop failures and the reduction in fish catch, women are more vulnerable due to their insecure land tenure rights. Women are also more likely than men to focus on the implications for the well-being of their families. Also Changes in food utilization -With farming systems and fishing changing there is a risk that traditional crops and resources for food will not be available. As women tend to be responsible for the food preparation and food security of the households, they will face particular challenges. Increase in migration - As agriculture and fishery becomes less reliable as a livelihood with climate change, migration within Myanmar and abroad is increasing. The latest census survey found that 53% of all persons who moved from their previous place of usual residence within Myanmar were female. Villages where one gender has migrated away, creating a gender imbalance, are profoundly changed. Reduced water availability for irrigation and human consumption - A shortage of water affects both men and women, but men tend to focus on water for farming and production whereas women tend to focus more on lack of drinking water and its implications on the health of their families. Human health risks due to contamination of drinking water - Women’s caring role makes them responsible to tend for children, elderly and the sick. They are particularly affected by a post-disaster situation. Loss of lives and Injury - Women disproportionally lose their lives in storms and disasters because they need to care for elderly and children. While women retain equal rights under the 2008 Constitution to enter into land-tenure contracts and to administer property, there is no guidance on how women can, in practical cases, defend their rights upon divorce or death of their husband.

1. **Please describe any relevant commitments, legislation and other measures that you have taken to promote a gender-responsive approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation at the local, national, regional and international level and to ensure the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of women and girls impacted by the adverse effects of the climate change. Please include relevant mechanisms used to promote accountability and/or implementation.**

Even though there has not been any relevant commitments, legislations and other measure that directly linked to promote a gender-responsive approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation, there have been a series of policy tools that have been 2 formulated recognizing protection of marginalized groups from adverse impacts of climate change. For instance, Myanmar' s INDC recognized the climate-driven migration due to adverse impacts of climate change. The national climate change policy which is under finalization expressed its vision of becoming climate-resilient, lowcarbon society that is sustainable, prosperous and inclusive. Two out of nine guiding principles, i.e. "Inclusiveness" and "Climate justice and equity", express the promotion and protection of the rights of all people particularly the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalized segments of society and the rights to participation in decision-making and action in adapting and mitigating climate change, and low-carbon and climate-resilient development. The policy recommendation area for human wellbeing recommend for actions to scale up and strengthen social protection for all people, and in particular for the most vulnerable, to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to slow- and rapid-onset impacts of climate change.

1. **Please share a summary of any relevant data that captures how the adverse effects of climate change have affected women and girls, taking into account multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.**

Myanmar signed the 1979 UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in 1997. It also has a National Committee for the Advancement of Women and assigned the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement responsibility for implementing and monitoring the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women, a ten-year plan (2013–2022) that aims to advance women’s status in 12 areas to reach substantive gender equality by 2022.Myanmar is a signatory to the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and recently underwent a review with the United Nations. After the parties to the UNFCCC recognised the importance of addressing issues of gender and climate change and involving women and men equally in the UNFCCC, the Myanmar government stated in that it would pay attention to gender consideration in its climate change policy design. Ensuring the full and effective participation of women in decision making means women can act as agents of change in all circumstances. Climate change-related actions would benefit from the insights, knowledge and other resources that women bring in crafting effective and sustainable solutions for adapting to and mitigating climate change impacts. MCCS includes capacity building and guidance on mainstreaming gender into climate change actions, how to ensure equal participation of men and women in interventions and improve the availability of sex-disaggregated data.

1. **Please describe mechanisms and tools, which can be used to measure and monitor the impacts of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of women and girls.**

Access to resources-Women’s right to access and owning land tends to be highly insecure in Myanmar. Women who depend on agriculture are more vulnerable to climate disasters if they cannot make decisions regarding the use of the land that they farm. Women perform most tasks related to gathering firewood and fetching drinking water. Limited access to electricity and water throughout the country increases women’s work. This may be compounded by climate change.

Livelihoods-Introduce policies/measures that enable women to have improved access/control over productive resources such as land, seeds, irrigation. Reduce women’s unpaid workload through improved access to basic services (water, energy, sanitation). Agriculture is the mainstay of Myanmar’s economy, largely consisting of farming, livestock production, forestry, and fisheries. Women have a critical role in each of these sectors. Climate Change will affect agriculture profoundly. The high burden of work of women may increase and livelihoods will be at risk because of climate change.

Access to education, skills and information-Acknowledge women’s contribution in the agriculture and fishing sector. Support women that are contributing to households’ additional income sources such as running small businesses with access to credit and resources. Promote women’s participation and leadership in natural resources management (e.g. water and forest). Raise awareness on the differentiated vulnerability of men and women where climate change adaptation is concerned and ensure capacity to implement gender specific activities. Myanmar has achieved gender parity at primary and secondary levels of education. However, there are continuing concerns about retention rates, performance levels of certain categories of children especially in secondary school, and the quality of education. Because women’s work is not always recognized as employment they have more limited access to information. Climate change would affect the income of low-income families and this could further affect the access to education and information. Consult with both men and women on matters related to climate change impacts, access to resources and livelihoods. Provide equal support and training for women’s and men’s livelihoods, job skills and business development.

Participation in decisions-Develop policies that support decent work and entrepreneurship for women. Women’s needs and capacities are often neglected because they are not always included in decision-making processes. In 2016, women occupied 12.9% of directly elected seats in all levels of Parliament in Myanmar, still far from the 30% target stipulated in the Beijing Framework for Action. This situation is also reflected at local level where few women participate in local planning.

1. **Please identify and share examples of good practices and challenges in the promotion, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of women and girls in the context of the adverse effects of climate change. Please include examples that highlight multilateral cooperation, gender mainstreaming, gender responsive approaches, and the full, meaningful and effective participation of women and girls in relevant decision-making processes.**

Generally, as the least developed country, the major challenges in the promotion, projection and fulfilment of the human rights of women and girls in the context of the adverse impacts of climate change in Myanmar are mainly related to financial, technology and capacity building across all sectors and at all levels. The collaboration among relevant stakeholders remains challenges as well as engaging with the local communities. Therefore, the awareness raising is still becoming one of the good practices for promoting the human rights enjoyment of migrants.

Climate change impacts the lives of women and men in different ways because of existing inequalities, responsibilities and roles. In Myanmar, the women and men have unequal access to natural resources and land ownership; women have limited opportunities to participate in decision making and limited access to markets, capital, training and technology; they also have the common double burden of responsibilities inside and outside the household. But women can also lead the way in adapting to climate change impacts — for example, through small-scale entrepreneurship and business. They can play a key role in mitigating climate change by optimising energy efficiency, using low-footprint energy sources and techniques, and influencing a household’s use of ecosystem services. Recognising these different vulnerabilities, needs and capacities is central to effective environmental protection and management in the face of climate change.

1. **Please provide any additional information you believe would be useful to support efforts to integrate a gender-responsive approach into climate action at the local, national, regional and international levels for the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of women and girls.**

Throughout the implementation of climate change planning on a national level, women should be consulted and targeted as programme beneficiaries through best practice. This can include quotas for including women on local climate change-related committees, women-only consultation meetings and providing safe transportation and childcare for women to attend meetings.

The collaboration among relevant stakeholders is much more needed together with the human rights awareness and advocacy in the areas of not only to integrate agender-responsive approach into climate change but also fundamental human rights across all sectors and at all levels. The existing policy and other relevant tools and mechanisms relating with human rights including migrants' rights and climate change should be integrated each other, and if not enough, the required policy and relevant tools should be formulated by coordination and collaboration among stakeholders.