

APPENDIX

Appendix 1

Foreign Policy of Myanmar

Source: www.mofa.gov.mm/foerignpolicy

Foreign Policy: **Emergence of Foreign Policy**

1. A State attains some of its national objectives by adopting and implementing its domestic policies. However as it is interrelated with other states, it becomes necessary to adopt policies that would persuade other states to react favorably. To attain such objectives, a state needs to establish diplomatic relations with other states and work in concert towards joint resolutions and cooperative implementations of common issues. The conduct of such relations in a systematic and consistent manner is said to be the Foreign Policy of a State. Both domestic and Foreign Policies are intended to attain objectives of national interest. They are interrelated and mutually reinforcing.

2. To study the Foreign Policy of a State it is necessary to observe the basic objectives of its policy or its fundamental strategy. In adopting a Foreign Policy, States usually adopt one of the following principles:-

- isolationism
- non-alignment
- polarization

3. Myanmar, since achieving independence, and for quite some time thereafter, adopted and practised an “independent” and “non-aligned” Foreign Policy. Evolution of the objectives of this policy may be observed as follows-

- At the time of Myanmar’s independence, the international system has an Eastern and Western bloc, between which a “Cold War” was raging. It was also the time when colonial nations were regaining their independence. These newly independent states were in favour of adopting “independent” Foreign Policies,” “independent” in the sense of being totally free of outside influence.

- For Myanmar, which wrested independence with great difficulty, only an “independent” Foreign Policy was congruent with independence.
- Concurrently with independence, Myanmar faced an internal insurgency and therefore wished to avoid a disastrous contention on its soil between the Eastern and Western blocs. Hence it wished to be non-aligned between the two great blocs.
- At the time of independence, it was essential to prioritize on economic and social reconstruction. It was declared at that time that foreign assistance, without any strings attached from both sides, will be accepted.
- As Myanmar is geographically situated between two highly populous nations, India and China, it desired to be independent and non-aligned.

4. For the above mentioned reasons Myanmar consistently practised an Independent and non-aligned Foreign Policy.

Foreign Policy : **Independent and Active Foreign Policy**

5. Beginning in 1971 Myanmar transformed its independent and non-aligned Foreign Policy to an independent and active Foreign Policy. The State Law and Order Restoration Council, by its Declaration 3/88 of 18.9.88 promulgated that it would continue to adhere to the independent and active foreign policy. In practising its Independent and Active Foreign Policy, Myanmar will not align itself with any bloc on international issues except to consistently stand on the side that is right. Myanmar also actively participates in activities for world peace; opposes war, imperialism and colonialism; and maintains friendly relations with all countries.

6. Myanmar practises the Independent and Active Foreign Policy in accordance with the following principles:

- respect of and adherence to the principle of equality among peoples and among nations and the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence;
- taking a non-aligned, independent and just stand in international issues;
- maintaining friendly relations with all nations, and good-neighbourly relations with neighbouring countries;

- continued support of, and active participation in, the United Nations and its affiliated organisations;
- pursuance of mutually beneficial bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes;
- regional consultation and beneficial cooperation in regional economic and social affairs;
- active participation in the maintenance of international peace and security and the creation of an equitable
- economic order and opposition to imperialism, colonialism, intervention, aggression and hegemonism;
- acceptance of foreign assistance which is beneficial to national development, provided there are no strings attached;

Foreign Policy : **The Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence**

7. In 1954 Myanmar, China and India, during Chinese Premier Chou En Lai's visit to India and Myanmar expounded the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. Accordingly, on 28.6.1954 China and India signed in New Delhi and on 29.6.1954 Myanmar and China signed in Yangon, agreements to adhere to these Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. The Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence are:

- mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty;
- to abide by mutual non-aggression;
- non-interference in each other's internal affairs;
- respect for mutual equality and to work for mutual benefit;
- peaceful co-existence

The above Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence still steadfastly remain the main cornerstone of Myanmar Foreign Policy.

8. In matters of world affairs and international issues, in line with the principles and purposes of the United Nations and on the basis of the principles of Peaceful Co-existence, Myanmar has acted as follows;

- actively participating in United Nations activities in accordance with its own basic principle;
- consistently supporting disarmament;

- opposing arms race, production and sales;
- supporting national liberation movements;
- supporting decolonialization;
- opposing aggression of imperialists;
- opposing colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination;
- supporting efforts to ensure world peace; and
- opposing aggressive imperialistic wars.

Appendix 2

Foreign Policy of China

Source: www.china-embassy.org

China's Diplomacy Aims at Safeguarding National Interests, Promoting World Peace

ON the eve of the founding of New China five decades ago, the country faced a perilous environment, and half a century later, relations with major powers have improved remarkably and ties with neighboring states and other developing countries have seen progress.

As a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, China has been playing an increasingly important role in the international arena.

On October 1, 1949, Chairman Mao Zedong proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China, ending a hundred years of humiliation, and China now has diplomatic relations with more than 160 countries and engages in economic, trade, scientific, technological, and cultural cooperation with more than 220 countries and regions.

In the past five decades China has overcome difficult international problems one by one in part thanks to its flexible and practical strategies.

Independence -- Standpoint of China's Diplomacy

Independence is the basic principle of China's foreign policy. On the eve of the founding of the new China, Mao Zedong established the foreign policy of the new socialist China by first severing all links with the old China's foreign policy, or "thoroughly cleaning house", as he put it.

Main Characteristics of China's Foreign Policy

(Excerpts of Premier Li Peng's speech at the 96th Inter-Parliamentary Conference on September 19, 1996)

China has unswervingly pursued an independent foreign policy of peace. The basic objectives of the policy center on safeguarding national independence and state sovereignty, and creating an international environment favorable to its reform, opening and modernization efforts, as well as maintaining world peace and promoting common development. The policy is based on the following main elements:

Maintaining independence. We are principled in international affairs, determining our own position and policies in accordance with the merits of each case and never yielding to pressure from major powers, nor entering into alliance with any major power or power bloc.

Maintaining world peace. China does not participate in the arms race, nor does it seek military expansion. China resolutely opposes hegemonism, power politics, aggression and expansion in whatever form, as well as encroachments perpetrated by one country on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of another, or interference in the internal affairs of another nation under the pretext of ethnic, religious or human rights issues.

Friendly relations and cooperation. China sincerely hopes to establish and develop friendly ties and cooperative relationship with all countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Relations with other states are never based on social systems or ideologies.

Good-neighboring and friendly relations. China has vigorously advanced friendly relations with neighboring countries, worked diligently for regional peace and stability, and promoted regional economic cooperation. Our nation stands for fair and reasonable settlements of border and territorial disputes through negotiations and consultations, including the offshore territory. Disputes defying immediate solutions

can be temporarily shelved in the spirit of seeking common ground while putting aside differences. They should never be allowed to stand in the way of the development of normal state-to-state relations.

Enhanced unity and cooperation with developing countries. This factor has always been a cornerstone of our foreign policy. We attach great importance to the development of comprehensive friendly relations and cooperation with other developing countries. We have vigorously explored ways to engage in mutually complementary cooperation with other developing nations in the economic, trade, scientific and technological sectors, and have expanded consultations and cooperation with them on international issues in order to maintain the rights and interests of all developing countries.

Opening policy. China is open to both developed and developing countries and has engaged in extensive international cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit to promote common development. China, the world's largest developing country and a permanent member of the UN Security Council, stands ready to make unremitting efforts to ensure world peace and development, and the establishment of a new fair and equitable international political and economic order based on peace and stability.

Appendix 3

Declaration on the Admission of the Union of Myanmar into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

www.aseansec.org

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

HAVING CONSIDERED the communication of the Union of Myanmar expressing its desire to become a member state of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ("ASEAN");

HAVING REGARD to the ASEAN Declaration of 8 August 1967, which established ASEAN, wherein it was declared that the Association is open for participation to all States in the Southeast Asian region subscribing to the aims, principles and purposes of ASEAN;

HAVING REGARD also to the Declaration of ASEAN Concord;

NOTING the Union of Myanmar's accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia on 27 July 1995;

NOTING ALSO that the Union of Myanmar has agreed to subscribe or accede, as the case may be, to all ASEAN Declarations, Treaties and Agreements, including ASEAN Agreements with Dialogue Partners, Sectoral Dialogue Partners and Consultative Partners, the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation and the Agreement on the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT)

Scheme for the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA);

NOTING FURTHER that the Union of Myanmar will, from the date of its membership in ASEAN, extend on a reciprocal basis Most Favoured Nation Treatment to ASEAN Member States; National Treatment on products of the territory of any ASEAN Member State imported into the territory of the Union of Myanmar vis-a-vis like products of national origin in respect of all laws, regulations and requirements (including sales tax, exchange rate determination and foreign exchange control) affecting their internal sale, offering for sale, purchase, transportation, distribution or use; and ensure transparency in its trade regime on goods and services by keeping ASEAN Member States informed of all its laws, regulations and requirements and subsequent changes thereto which affect its trade in goods and services with ASEAN Member States; and

HAVING REGARD to the unanimous expression by ASEAN Member States of their agreement to admit the Union of Myanmar into ASEAN;

and,

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar,
representing the Union of Myanmar,

HAVING SOLEMNLY ACCEPTED the conditions of membership;

NOW THEREFORE, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar do hereby agree and declare as follows:

1. The Union of Myanmar shall be a member state of ASEAN from the date of this Declaration;

2. The Union of Myanmar, pursuant to its solemn agreement to do so, shall subscribe or accede, as the case may be, to all Declarations, Treaties and Agreements of ASEAN.

This Declaration on the Admission of the Union of Myanmar into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN.