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Opening Remarks by Acting President Duwa Lashi La

76th Myanmar Union Day and the Second Spring Flowers International Conference

February 9, 2023

Good morning and good evening, Ladies and Gentleman.

It is an honor to be present for this significant occasion, which marks the second anniversary of the Spring Revolution as well as the second consecutive successful Spring Flowers International Conference of Myanmar.

Thank you to the Burmese American Community Institute and the National University of the Union of Myanmar Global Campus for organizing another successful event, as well as for all the important work you are doing for our country and our people.

I am glad to see so many inspiring participants in this year's Conference. In addition to members of our National Unity Government, we are also grateful to learn from all the scholars and researchers, as well as speakers from activist and advocacy groups, rights organizations, student unions, university councils, and international organizations. Your papers and discussions will enlighten the attendees and our community on important topics, such as humanitarian aid, constitutional development, democratic institutions, and the international community's role in helping bring about the change we need.

Thank you as well to all those public officials who are joining us and who continue strongly supporting the people of Myanmar.

For Myanmar's democracy and peace to be restored, the people are currently facing a formidable struggle. This is a time of great difficulty for us all. Yet, it is also the moment when we are achieving our historic dreams of an inclusive, peaceful federal democratic union. You all are contributing to Myanmar's brighter future.

As we have seen the impact of the first Spring Flowers International Conference, we hope that the outcome of the conference will play a critical role in further helping shape the vision and the strategic direction of the Myanmar democracy movement and the future of Myanmar as we

collectively contribute to building a federal democratic Union of Myanmar.

Together, we are moving forward to the re-establishment of Myanmar based on the Panglong principles of freedom, equality, and self-determination.

I would like to thank everyone who attends the conference and warmly welcome all to this celebration of the 76th Myanmar Union Day and the second Spring Flowers International Conference on Myanmar.
