President U Htin Kyaw: The constitution to be in accord with democratic norms

The following is the unofficial translation of the inaugural speech of President U Htin Kyaw delivered at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30 March.

"First of all, I would like to express my delight at being elected President by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw because it is a significant, historic event. As I have now become the president, I am the person who is accountable for the Union Parliament. [Myanmar's] second Hluttaws and the governments resulting from the November 2015 election were formed to be in accordance with the policies of the National League for Democracy, led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Our new government will implement the following policies:

- national reconciliation;
- internal peace;
- the emergence of a constitution that will lead to effectuation of a democratic, federal union; and
- raising the quality of life of the majority of the people.

I would like to emphasis the fact that I will invariably be cautious of my duty to keep these oaths. Moreover, I am responsible for the emergence of a constitution that is in accord with democratic norms suited to our country. I am also aware that I need to be patient enough to realise this political objective, for which the people have long aspired.

May I now conclude by emphasising that our Union Government will exert strenuous efforts to fulfill the people's aspirations and wishes. I wish all citizens peace and prosperity in treading upon your respective paths of life."

Source – President's Office