

## Inaugural Address\*<sup>1</sup>

First of all please let me express my deep appreciation and immense pride to be elected as President of CMAAO which is a highly esteemed organization. Myanmar Medical Association attended the first CMAAO congress in Tokyo in 1959 as one of the original eleven countries but did not have the opportunity to participate in its activities for a long time. Now after many years Myanmar Medical Association is not only an active member but is also the host to the 30th CMAAO General Assembly and 51st Council Meeting. Now that the President of the Myanmar Medical Association to be given the task of becoming CMAAO president is a great honor indeed.



CMAAO has been in existence since 1956 and has played a major role in promoting friendship and professional partnership among its member countries. Asia-Oceania is a big region which has an important role in global health. This is also because of the strong connections of CMAAO with WMA. Countries in this region have many common patterns in the health of its people and as such we all look forward to CMAAO for its leading role in formulating and advocating many important health issues as well as promoting information exchange.

Myanmar Medical Association is very fortunate to be part of this confederation of medical associations. Myanmar Medical Association finds that many of its objectives and aspirations are those of CMAAO and this is to our great benefit and we look forward to our future collaboration.

As the new President of CMAAO I can assure you that I will be committed to withhold the dignity and honour of the organization and do my utmost to fulfill its mission and objectives. I shall of course be looking for advice and assistance from all the member medical associations, as I am sure they will be most willing to oblige and I will continue to seek the help from the Secretariat which has been hosted by the Japan Medical Association. The hard work they have done has been most commendable. I would especially like to express our gratitude to Secretary General Dr. Masami Ishii and his team for advising and helping us throughout these months so that we can most efficiently hold this congress today. Also to Council Chair Prof. Dr. Dong Chun Shin, Treasurer Dr. Alvin Chan and my predecessor Dr. Jose Asa Sabili for providing a very good leadership. And of course to Chair of the Council of WMA Dr. Ardis Hoven for honoring us with her presence and for her continued support. Last but not least to the Executive Committee and organizing committee of the Myanmar Medical Association for all the hard work, and Past President of Myanmar Medical Association Professor Kyaw Myint Naing who laid the groundwork for what we are able to do today. A major share of the credit should go to him.

Thank you all very much.

My deep respect and warmest regards to all of you.

Rai MRA  
President of CMAAO (2015-2016)

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\*<sup>1</sup> This inaugural address was made at the 30th CMAAO General Assembly in Yangon, Myanmar, on September 23, 2015.