**Promoting human rights through Sport and Olympic ideal**

**“ QUESTIONNAIRE ”**

1. **How is Sport used in your country to promote human rights ? What are the best practises being applied ?**

In the Olympic Charter (which is in force as from 9th September, 2013) under “ Fundamental Priciples of Olympic ”, paragraph (4), it is stated as follows:-

“ The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practising sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic Spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play ”.

(a) Myanmar National Sport Committee Act was promulgated and in force as from 19th April, 1993, and all the sports activities were implementing throughout the country according to the Act which is in line with the Olympic Charter.

(b) Sport has been utilized as a tool for building sustainable peace and for preventing conflict by organizing Inter Regions and States Sports Competitions as (Champion Challenge Cup) for various sport disciplines around the year, with the aim of promoting not only the national level of sports, but also for the promotion and development of freindship, comradeship, better understanding among the athletes of different ethnic from every corner of the country.

2. **What are the possibilities of using sport and the Olympic Ideals to strengthen respect for human rights ?**

(a) By taking part in the regional sports competitions and hosting like South East Asian Games, continental Games like Asian Games and Olympic Games and other sports activities internationally, under the bilateral and multilateral sport programmes, with the aim of developing mutual understanding, friendship among the nations, etc. with the Olympic spirit.

3. **What are the sports practised in your country and how far are they all inclusive (for women, youth, vulnerable groups, etc.)**

By organizing Sport for All activities and movements such as mass hiking, group calisthenics as Mass Sport Programme during the open seasons througout the whole nation, which has been taking part by all walks of life, such as men and women, young and old, abled and disabled, etc.

By Conducting seasonal basic and advance sport training courses, such as summer courses, winter courses throughout the year, which target mainly on the young kids, boys and girls.

4. **In what way can sport and the Olympic Ideal become a means to:-**

(a) Advance the cause of peace ?

As one of the programmes of Ministry of Sport for the implementation of the development and peace through sport, the infrastructures (Stadiums, Gymnasiums, etc.) were constructed and the sports facilities, sports equipment and sports gears were provided to those Union citizens and ethnics dwelling at the country border, of which achieved not only the regional multilateral development but also the tranquility and peace in those border areas.

(b) Promote development ?

By signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Sports Exchanges Programme not only with the Southeast Asain neighboring countries like Thailand, Laos, Vietnam but also with the other sports super power nations like, Japan, Peoples’ Republic of China, Republic of Korea, and India, Bangladesh and implementing the sports development programmes and activities for the mutual benefits in sports among the brother countries.

While implementing the programme for the development and promotion of National Sports Standards with the own programme, the programmes like International Sports Exchanges Programme, reciprocal exchange programmes of athletes, trainers, coaches, sports administrators and technical exchange programmes are included and implemented.

(c) Combat all forms of discrimination ?

By promulgating and enforcing necessary Acts, Laws, Rules and Regulations, all the Sport Activities and movements can be practised and excercised very widely, and by organizing Sport for All Programmes throughout the country, so that everybody can enjoy sport of which one of the principle as stated in the “ Fundamental Principles of Olympism ” as follows:-

“ Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement ”.

5. **What kinds of challenges are faced in promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic Ideal ?**

Even though there are no major challenges encountered, there are some limitations and restrictions in implementing national efforts for the promoting of human rights through sport and the Olympic Ideal and also for the sport development and peace initiatives in the border and rural areas due to some lack of communications.

6. **How can the media help in the promotion of human rights through sport and the Olympic Ideal ?**

The media can help in the promotion of human rights through Sport and the Olympic Ideal very effectively in many ways and means, such as educational and motivational articles and talks through Newspapers, Journals, Radios, Televisions, Workshops, Seminars, Websites, Internets through advanced Information Technologies, etc.