



## Access to Essential Medicine

Essential Medicines are "those that satisfy the priority health care needs of the majority of the population", they should therefore be available at all times, in adequate amount, in appropriate dosage forms and at a price that the individual and the community can afford.

National Drug Law was promulgated in 1992 to ensure medicines consumed by the community to be safe and efficacious and of assured quality. The Food and Drug Administration Department under the guidance and supervision of the Central Food and Drug Supervisory Committee systematically implement and monitor the availability of medicines with assured quality.

Rational Use of Medicines requires that "patients receive medications appropriate to their clinical needs, in doses that meet their own individual requirements, for an adequate period of time, and at the lowest cost to them and their community". Promoting rational use of medicines by prescribers and consumers can generate health gains and financial savings.

Myanmar has been striving to achieve the MDGs in which "In-cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential medicines in developing countries" is targeted and proportion of population with access to affordable essential medicines on a sustainable basis is a measurable indicator. This indicator reflects various aspects of access like government commitment, rational selection, affordable prices, sustainable financing and reliable health and supply systems.

### **Workshop on Review and Revision of National Medicines Policy**



### **Refresher Training of Myanmar Essential Medicines Project for Health Assistants**