



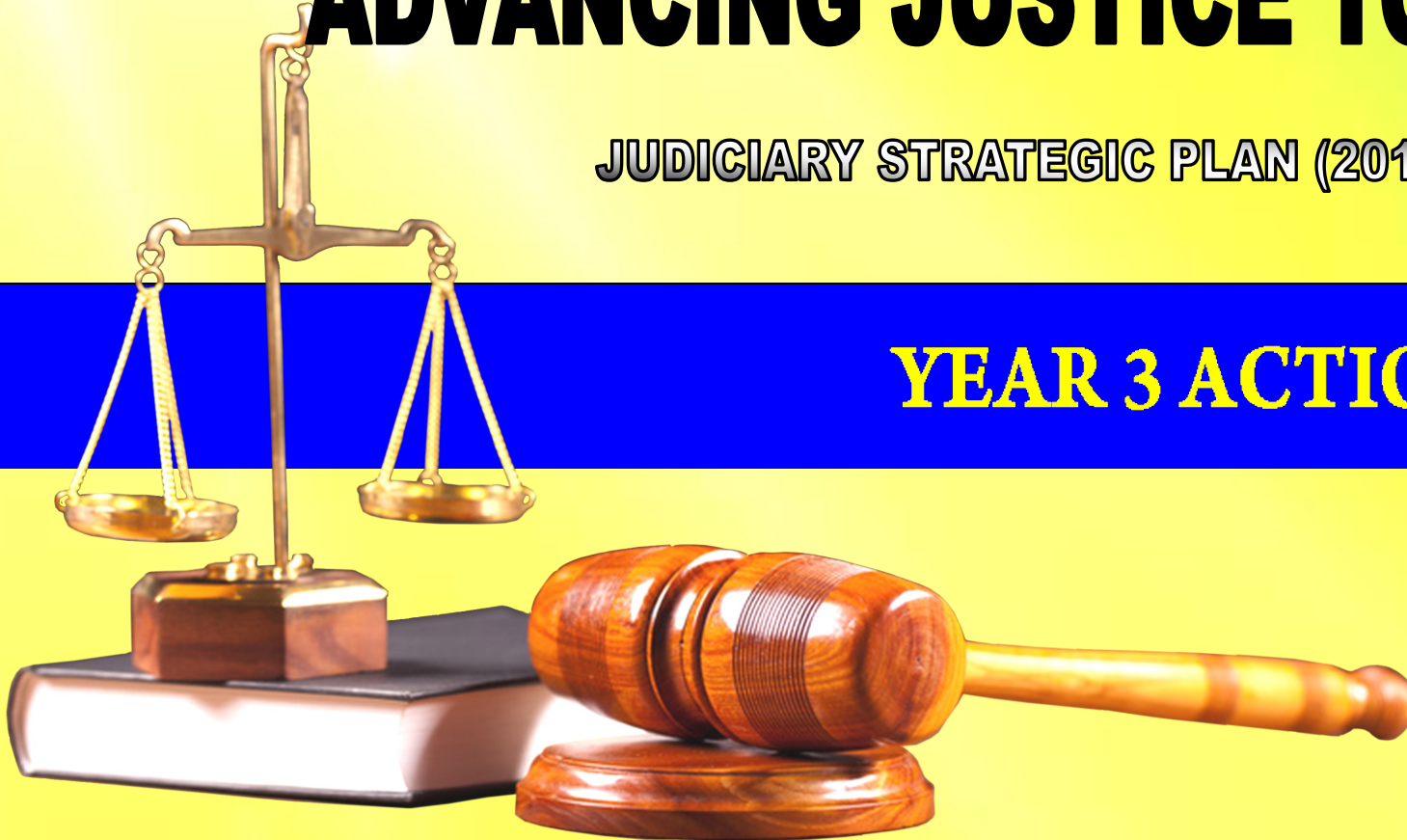
THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

THE SUPREME COURT
of THE UNION

ADVANCING JUSTICE TOGETHER

JUDICIARY STRATEGIC PLAN (2015-2017)

YEAR 3 ACTION PLAN (2017)





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Judiciary Strategic Plan

Year-Three Action Plan (2017)

With the motto “Advancing Justice Together”, the Three-Year Judiciary Strategic Plan (2015-2017) of the Myanmar Judiciary comes to its final year in 2017. Commencing with great momentum, all set of strategic initiatives have been implemented in the prioritized areas since its first year. At the end of each planning year, our key international partners have been invited to the Supreme Court of the Union and briefed about previous activities and requested their proposals that they wished to cooperate with the Supreme Court of the Union in the coming year. The Report on Implementation of Year-One Strategic Action Plan was published and distributed to our partner organizations and countries and also launched on our official website for the public. The main and single reason is to understand more about the activities taken by the Supreme Court of the Union and different levels of Courts in Myanmar for the judicial reform processes.

Within the past two years, many prominent achievements have been made but some tasks are still waiting us to be fulfilled. The first phase of a ‘Pilot Courts’ program could be implemented in the Toungoo District Court, Hlinethaya Township Court and Hpa-an Township Court, commencing from Year-One (2015). In the 2016 year plan, the expansion of

five additional pilot courts, namely Mawlamyine District Court, Monywa District Court, Chanayetharzan Township Court, Patheingyi Township Court, and Magway Township Court, can be seen as the significant success of the second year of the Judiciary Strategic Plan. Very positive initial results that come out from the Case Management Plan have been found in those pilot courts with a significant reduction of backlog and increase in judicial productivity.

Like the Year-Two action plan, the detail of the Year-Three action plan is shown in this official document. With the strategic objectives, some initiatives that need to be carried out in five Strategic Action Areas are shown as the activities for the final year of the Three-Year Judiciary Strategic Plan. Some tasks can be seen as the continuity of the action plan of the previous year and some are to be carried out as the newly ones. These activities may be formed as the groups of:

- ◆ Designing and creating of self-help information counters and public intake centers;
- ◆ Training the Judges and court staff for their capacity building especially in the areas of communications and customer services, media relation skills, information technology, case management program and court integrity;
- ◆ Developing the Electronic Case Information System and preparing an IT master plan for the entire judiciary;
- ◆ Modernizing the court facilities especially in the expanded pilot courts;

- ♦ Developing capacity to administer unified court budget and reviewing process for integrated strategic planning and budget priority setting;
- ♦ Upgrading court libraries, enhancing capacity of the Training Department and Judicial Training Center of the Supreme Court of the Union;
- ♦ Reviewing the Code of Judicial Ethics and developing a judicial professional and ethical development strategy;
- ♦ Reviewing and initiating case flow processes, recordkeeping procedures and laws and its implementation mechanism;
- ♦ Performing feasibility study of civil mediation.

Moreover, although there is no detailed specification in this year plan, the other important mission is to draw up a more appropriate and proper judicial strategic plan for a certain period after termination of this final year action plan. The Supreme Court of the Union, with the effective assistance of key partners, taking its leadership role upon its subordinate courts, makes all out its efforts for the best interest of the Judiciary being reliable and trusted by the public.

The Supreme Court of the Union



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Strategic Action Area 1: Protect Public Access (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 1.1: Improving ease of access to court services	1.1.1 Create public self-help information counter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop self-help desks in expanded pilot courts to disseminate information • Develop self-help desks in designated new court houses to disseminate information • Provide information about legal aid needs in pilot courts 	Critical Year 3	CMC+PRLP BLDP USC+MJ+LAWG	Public Satisfaction
	1.1.2 Design and implement pilot modern public intake centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish intake centers in expanded pilot courts • Establish a model design for open intake centers in new court houses 	Critical Year 3	CMC+PRLP BLDP	Public Satisfaction
Strategic Objective 1.2: Ensuring all citizens, litigants and defendants are treated with courtesy, responsiveness and respect	1.2.1 Train judges and court staff on customer services and communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance customer service and communications standards and training programs • Conduct training of trainers on customer service and communications • Conduct training of judges and court staff of expanded pilot courts on customer service and courtroom communications 	Critical Year 3	TDP + PRLP TDP+ HCs+ PRLP	Participant Evaluation, Court User Satisfaction
	1.2.2 Develop Electronic Case Information System to improve ease of doing business with the courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input case information by linking with Case Management System • Train court staff of USC and HCs on use of Case Management System • Announce cause lists and order dates of USC and HCs via USC website • Announce cause lists and order dates of USC via PRDP's facebook page 	Critical Year 3	IT & PRDP+ CRJDP+ CJDP+ WDP+ HCs+ UNDP	Timely Completion, Number of Users
	1.2.3 Perform feasibility study of civil mediation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct workshops and seminars • Study on other countries' experiences on court-led mediation system in civil cases • Draft procedure on court-led mediation in civil cases 	High Priority	IR & RDP+ CJDP+LPDP+ JICA+ FCA+ MinLaw+ UNDP +IP+ WG IV	Timely Completion

ONE YEAR STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (2017)

Strategic Action Area 1: Protect Public Access (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 1.3: Court house renovations incorporate designs for improving citizens' access to court services	<i>1.3.1 Modernize court facilities in expanded pilot courts to provide adequate and safe access and improve public trust</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support materials for expanded pilot courts 	Critical Year 3	PRLP + IP	Timely Completion, Court User Satisfaction
	<i>1.3.2 Develop and implement programs for court facilities at all courts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop plans for improvement of facilities of the courts Install equipment for child witness examination rooms in selected courts 	High Priority	BLDP+IP HCs+UNICEF	Timely Completion, Court User Satisfaction

Strategic Action Area 2: Promote Public Awareness (Year 3 Action Plan - 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Person	Outcome Measures
2.1 Improved communication with media and the public	2.1.1 Train Judges and court staff on media relation skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage experts to provide training for new judges and refreshers at Judicial Training Center 	Critical Year 3	TDP + PRLP	Number Trained, Pre/Post Training Tests
	2.1.2. Initiate public information services in courts at different levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the courses for media relation and communication strategy Engage experts to train assigned personnel including training of trainers 	High Priority	IT&PRDP + TDP + PRLP	Timely Completion
	2.1.3. Carry out national public information programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade website of Supreme Court of the Union Link with ASEAN Judicial Portal in cooperation with Supreme Courts of ASEAN countries Distribute brochures to public via subordinate courts Distribute brochures for Child Protection & Juvenile Justice Translate brochures into Mon and Kayin languages and distribute them Publish judicial journal and annual law report Publish Courts Manual (Volume – II) in English and Myanmar Draft work plans for annual report, categorize data for annual report, collect data for annual report and conduct working group meetings for listing index Collect data from Supreme Court of the Union and High Courts of State and Region and cooperate in supportive activities Publish annual report for 2016 	Critical Year 3	IT&PRDP + PRLP BLDP+IT&PRDP UNICEF MJ LPDP ACRT +FCA+ UNDP	Increased Public Awareness of the Courts

ONE YEAR STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (2017)

Strategic Action Area 2: Promote Public Awareness (Year 3 Action Plan - 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Person	Outcome Measures
2.2. Enhance court community information programs	2.2.1. Implement court information initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload USC information to USC website and PRDP's facebook page • Upload HCs information to USC website 	Critical Year 3	IT&PRDP	Increased Public Awareness of the Courts
	2.2.2. Carry out public outreach programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform outreach program at USC • Perform outreach program at Township Courts 	Critical Year 3	IT&PRDP HCs+PRLP	Increased Public Awareness of the Courts

Strategic Action Area 3: Independence and Accountability (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)					
Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 3.1: Developed capacity to create a unified court budget and to administer budget expenditures to ensure responsible and transparent use of public resources	3.1.1 Develop capacity to administer unified court budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the budget database program software Conduct budget database training to the responsible persons 	Critical Year 3	BLDP + IT& PRDP +PRLP	Timely Completion and Practical and Effective Use of Budget Database
	3.1.2 Review processes for integrated strategic planning and budget priority setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make expert assessment on USC's current strategic planning processes Make budget narrative for judicial budget prioritization processes Prepare annual budget for implementation of Strategic Action Plan 	Critical Year 3	IC+ PRLP BLDP+PRLP BLDP	Strategic Planning Linked to Priority Setting and Budget
	3.1.3 Review current plan and draft new plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Judiciary Strategic Plan (2015-2017) Draft new Judiciary Strategic Plan (2018-2022) 	Critical year 3	USC + UNDP+ PRLP+IP	Timely Completion

ONE YEAR STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (2017)

Strategic Action Area 3: Independence and Accountability (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 3.2: Established staff capacities at the OUSC for effective judicial administration	3.2.1 Upgrade the capacity of USC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish video conferencing system and upgrade network between USC and HCs Establish Virtual Private Network (VPN) between USC and HCs Record the bio-data of all Higher-Grade Pleader and Advocate by database 	High Priority	IT & PRDP+ HCs LIDP	Timely Completion
	3.2.2 IT Training for USC Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the external IT training for the officers and staff of IT department Conduct Basic /Advance IT Training for staff of OUSC Conduct Basic /Advance IT Training for staff of HCs Provide Training Courses of Case Management System for staff 	High Priority	TDP+ IT & PRDP IT & PRDP+ HCs CMC+PRLP	Number of Staff Trained

**Strategic Action Area 4: Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity
of the Judiciary (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)**

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 4.1: Improved knowledge, skills and abilities of judges and court staff	4.1.1 Enhance training for judges to achieve equality, fairness and integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop training plan for judges in priority areas including practical skills (e.g., administration and supervisory skills, case management, code of conduct, legal English, child right, intellectual property, electronic evidence) • Upgrade Pre-service Course Curriculum • Prepare and draft curriculum, including the child friendly justice related modules • Analyze the needs of thematic child friendly justice training and provide training when necessary • Conduct joint training with stakeholders for Child Protection & Juvenile Justice • Deliver regular training for judges • Conduct training of trainers at different legal areas • Conduct training for human right law and standard • Conduct training for fair trial standard • Conduct seminars, workshops and training for Commercial Law and Commercial Disputes • Conduct court leadership workshops and follow up activities • Conduct training for Insolvency Law • Conduct training for trafficking in persons • Conduct dialogues on the independence of the judiciary 	High Priority	<p>TDP+ UNDP+ JICA+IP</p> <p>TDP+WG II +JICA+ UNDP TDP+UNICEF</p> <p>TDP+UNICEF</p> <p>TDP+UNICEF</p> <p>TDP+UNDP+ UNICEF+JICA+IP TDP+IR&RDP+ ASEAN-J+ ICJ+ JICA +IP TDP+ IR&RDP+ DENMARK+ICJ TDP+IDLO TDP+ADB+ PRLP IR&RDP+FCA+ UNDP+MJ ADB+JICA+WG I USC+PRLP USC+ICJ</p>	Court User Satisfaction, Number of Training Courses Completed, Evaluation of Trainers, Participants & Course Supervisors

ONE YEAR STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (2017)

Strategic Action Area 4: Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 4.1: Improved knowledge, skills and abilities of judges and court staff	4.1.2 Skill Training for non-judicial court staff to enhance efficiency and public satisfaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop standardized training curriculum for court staff Develop court staff manual Provide training for court staff on case filing process Provide training on ethical and disciplinary guidelines for court staff 	High Priority	TDP+ADP+HCs ADP CRJDP+ CJD +HCs TDP+ADP+HCs	Court User Satisfaction, Pre and Post Training Evaluation, Follow up Evaluation on Effectiveness of Training
	4.1.3 Upgrade court libraries for judges to access knowledge and technical know-how	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw action plan for USC library (e.g., preparation for e-library) 	High Priority	IR&RDP+ IT&PRDP+ IP	Work Completion
Strategic Objective 4.2: Enhanced capacity for the professional development of judges	4.2.1 Enhance capacity of the USC Training Department and Judicial Training Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct annual study tours to Japan Implement organizational development plan (e.g., facilities, library, IT, organizational structure, add staff, trainer recruitment, training of trainers) Study on upgrading the level of Judicial Training Center to Judicial College 	High Priority	USC+ JICA TDP+JICA TDP+PRLP	Number of Organizational Improvement Implemented
	4.2.2 Review Ethics Code and develop a judicial professional and ethical development strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct ethical workshops Draft Ethics Code Develop professional development methods and plans Conduct professional development workshops Study on means for prevention of bribery and corruption 	High Priority	ECWG+ ICJ+ UNDP PDWG+ PRLP ADP+IP	Timely Completion
	4.2.3 Implementation of Ethics Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the new Ethics Code for understanding 	Midterm Priority	USC+HCs+IP	Timely Completion

**Strategic Action Area 5: Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing
(Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)**

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 5.1: Improved case management procedures and the best practices developed	5.1.1 Train judges and court staff on case management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage international experts to provide training to judicial officers and judges Engage experts to conduct case management training for High Court, District Court and Township Court judges from high caseload courts Organize intensive case management training for pilot court judges and court staff 	Critical Year 3	TDP+ PRLP	Improved Calendar Clearance, Reduced Age of Pending Caseload, Improved Trial Date Certainty, Court User Satisfaction
	5.1.2 Develop case management program procedures and best practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use case process chart and analysis Develop capacity to facilitate the service of civil process within ASEAN 	Midterm Priority	CMC+ CRJDP+ CJDP+PRLP USC+ASEAN J	
	5.1.3 Communicate changes in case management procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop strategy to communicate case management changes to public and key stakeholders (e.g., police, law officer, private attorney) in pilot court locations 	Critical Year 3	HCs+PC	
	5.1.4 Collect baseline data on calendar clearance, age of pending cases, and time to disposition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review current statistics and implement needed changes (e.g., separate reporting of traffic and other criminal cases) Analyze national statistics to inform case management improvements Conduct closed case survey in pilot courts using random case file sampling to develop detailed data on status of caseflow processing Evaluate on the weakness and strength of the pilot courts activities 	Critical Year 3	CRJDP CMC+CRJPD CJDP+PRLP CMC+PC+PRLP	

ONE YEAR STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (2017)

Strategic Action Area 5: Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing (Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 5.2: Strengthening and automation of key judicial processes initiated to enhance efficiency	5.2.1 Review and streamline caseflow processes and record-keeping procedures as needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and streamline caseflow processes and statistics requested by different departments Review recordkeeping procedures and set procedures Conduct recordkeeping training for USC and HCs 	High Priority	CRJDP+CJDP+WDP+LIDP TDP+ CRJDP+CJDP	Number of Processes and Procedure Streamline
	5.2.2 Initiate development of an automated case management system (CMS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review CMS in pilot courts 	High Priority	CMC+ IT&PRDP+PRLP	Number of Courts Using Automated Case Management System
	5.2.3 Prepare an IT master plan for the entire judiciary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft 20-year IT Master Plan for the entire judiciary Draft and implement 5-year short term plan for technology development under the IT Master Plan Upgrade network infrastructure of Supreme Court of the Union Establish network infrastructure at High Courts of the State and Region 	Midterm Priority	IT&PRDP+PRLP+ IP IT&PRDP+HCs	Timely Completion

**Strategic Action Area 5: Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing
(Year 3 Action Plan – 2017)**

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 5.3: Through the pilot court case management program legislative changes to promote expeditiousness and timeliness identified	5.3.1 Develop recommended legislative and/or code changes to promote expeditiousness and timeliness in criminal and civil cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find methods for speedy disposal of backlog cases 	High Priority	CJDP+ CRJDP	Conduct Completion
	5.3.2 Reform of laws and its implementation mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate and cooperate for law, rule and regulation drafting (e.g. Insolvency law, IP law and procedure on legal aid.) Establish effective IP disputes resolution system Prepare and present legal research papers Scrutinize and recommend Bills Study on environmental cases and its international legal framework Study on commercial court system 	High Priority	IR&RDP+LPDP +ADB+JICA +UNDP+PRLP +IP+WG I & III LAWG JICA+WG III+IP IR&PRDP+ LPDP+CJDP+ CRJDP+PRLP + ADB + JICA ADB+ IP+ WG USC+PRLP	Number of Law / Code/ Procedure Changes Recommended, Amended and Drafted

ABBREVIATION

ACRT	Annual Court Reporting Team
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Administrative Department
ASEAN J	ASEAN Judiciaries
BLDP	Budget and Logistics Department
CJDP	Civil Justice Department
CMC	Case Management Committee
CMS	Case Management System
CRJDP	Criminal Justice Department
ECWG	Working Group for Ethic Code
FCA	Federal Court of Australia
HCs	High Courts
IC	Strategic Plan Implementation Committee
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists
IDLO	International Development Law Organization
IP	International Partners
IR & RDP	International Relation and Research Department
IT	Information Technology
IT & PRDP	Information Technology and Public Relation Department
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LAWG	Legal Aid Process Implementation Working Group

LIDP	Lawyer Affairs and Inspectorate Department
LPDP	Law and Procedure Department
MJ	MyJustice Programme
MinLaw	Ministry of Law (Singapore)
OUSC	Office of the Union Supreme Court
PC	Pilot Court
PDWG	Working Group for Professional Development
PRLP	USAID Promoting the Rule of Law Project
TDP	Training Department
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
USC	Union Supreme Court
WDP	Writs Department
WG	Working Group
WG I	Working Group of Capacity Development for legislating Work
WG II	Working Group of Strengthening of Human Resource Development
WG III	Intellectual Property Working Group
WG IV	Court-led Mediation Working Group



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