



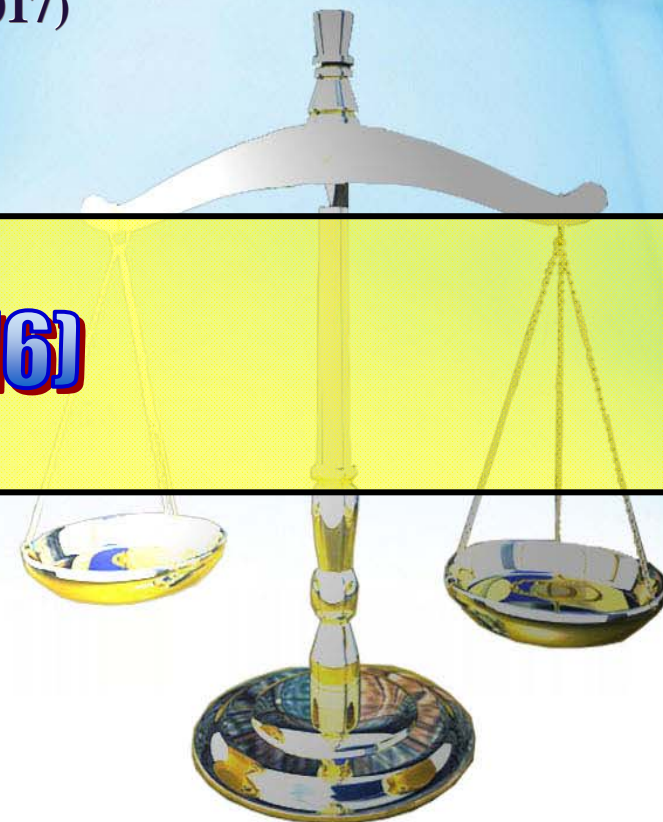
THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

THE SUPREME COURT  
*of* THE UNION

# ADVANCING JUSTICE TOGETHER

JUDICIARY STRATEGIC PLAN(2015-2017)

**YEAR 2 ACTION PLAN (2016)**







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# ADVANCING JUSTICE TOGETHER

**YEAR 2 ACTION PLAN (2016)**



	Judicial Strategic Plan Year 2 Action Plan (2016)	1
	Protect Public Access	5
	Promote Public Awareness	7
	Independence and Accountability	8
	Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary	9
	Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing	11
	Abbreviation	13





## **Judiciary Strategic Plan**

### **Year 2 Action Plan (2016)**

The Myanmar Judiciary is committed to providing the highest quality of justice to all citizens to promote public trust and confidence in the courts and effective rule of law. In order to achieve the mission of the Judiciary, the core Judiciary Aims are:

- Promote the rule of law and regional peace and tranquility
- Enhance reliability and public trust in the judicial system
- Adjudicate cases fairly and speedily in accordance with law
- Upgrade the integrity of the courts

The Supreme Court of the Union has been endeavoring to meet the above aims of the Judiciary. One of the remarkable efforts is that the Judiciary Strategic Plan (2015-2017) has been developed and implemented progressively since 2015. The following strategic five action areas have been identified to achieve the core Judiciary Aims:

- Strategic Action Area 1: Protect Public Access to Justice
- Strategic Action Area 2: Promote Public Awareness
- Strategic Action Area 3: Enhance Judicial Independence and Accountability
- Strategic Action Area 4: Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary
- Strategic Action Area 5: Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing

The Supreme Court of the Union has developed a ranking system to prioritize the implementation of the strategic initiatives to achieve these aims.

In 2015, Year 1 of the Judiciary Strategic Plan, strategically critical initiatives have been implemented with the help of International Partners. They include identifying the pilot courts in Taungoo District, Hlaingtharyar Township and Hpa-an Township, creating public self-help information counters and public intake centers, providing modern equipment, training the judges and court staff for enhancing the capacity, court services and communication skill, and starting to implement the procedures of case management at all pilot courts.

At the level of the Supreme Court of the Union, there has been development of electronic case information system, establishment of new departments such as Information Technology and Public Relations Department and Writs Department, improvement of the efficiency of Training Department and Judicial Training Center, and implementation of the court information programs at the Supreme Court of the Union website. In addition, the enhancement of the capacity to administer the integrated court budget and accountability and transparency in the use of the budget has been developed at the Supreme Court of the Union and High Courts.

Furthermore, the 2015 Action Plan has provided the public with an easy access to the information of services at all levels of courts. It includes establishment of public information centers and appointment of public information officers at all courts, training the judges and court staff for court-media relation, and publishing the handbook for court-media relation.



Now, the Supreme Court of the Union has published Year 2 Action Plan for 2016 in order to gear up for the Aims and Objectives of the Strategic Plan. The Year 2 Action Plan intends:

- To increase the number of pilot courts
- To develop the case information system at the Supreme Court of the Union
- To launch the case information system at High Courts
- To publish the brochures of court information
- To provide the IT training courses for judges and court staff
- To prepare the code of ethics for the Judiciary
- To upgrade the curriculum for pre-service training course
- To prepare the policies on new laws and their implementation mechanisms

It is believed that this 2016 Action Plan, a part of the Judiciary Strategic Plan (2015-2017), will play an important role in the implementation of the Policies, Aims and Objectives laid down by the Supreme Court of the Union for the better performance of the Judiciary. Accordingly, the Supreme Court of the Union and the courts in all levels endeavor to achieve the plan successfully with the cooperation of all stakeholders and International Partners.

The Supreme Court of the Union



**Strategic Action Area 1: Protect Public Access (Year 2 Action Plan – 2016)**

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
<b>Strategic Objective 1.1:</b> Improving ease of access to court services	<i>1.1.1 Create public self-help information counter</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop self help desks in expanded pilot courts to disseminate information (e.g., brochures)</li> <li>◆ Develop self help desks in new court houses to disseminate information (e.g., brochures)</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	BLDP+ IP	Public Satisfaction (Court User Survey)
	<i>1.1.2 Design and implement pilot modern public intake centers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Establish open intake centers in expanded pilot courts</li> <li>◆ Establish a model design for open intake centers in new court houses</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	BLDP+ IP	Public Satisfaction
<b>Strategic Objective 1.2:</b> Ensuring all citizens, litigants and defendants are treated with courtesy, responsiveness and respect	<i>1.2.1 Train judges and court staff on communications and customer services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop customer service and communications standards and training programs</li> <li>◆ Train judges and court staff of expanded pilot courts on customer service and courtroom communications</li> <li>◆ Conduct training of trainers on communication and customer service</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	TDP+ HC+ PRLP+UNDP	Participant Evaluation, Court User Satisfaction
	<i>1.2.2 Develop Electronic Case Information System to improve ease of doing business with the courts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop Case Information System at USC</li> <li>◆ Launch Case Information System at HCs</li> <li>◆ Train court staff of HCs on use of Case Information System</li> <li>◆ Input Case Information of HCs</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	IT & PRDP+ CRJDP+ CJDP+ HC+ UNDP	Timely Completion, Number of Users
	<i>1.2.3 Perform feasibility study of civil mediation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Conduct workshops and seminars</li> <li>◆ Write papers</li> <li>◆ Draft procedures</li> </ul>	Midterm Priority	IR & RDP+ LPDP+ IP	Participant Evaluation , Timely Completion



## Strategic Action Area 1: Protect Public Access (Year 2 Action Plan – 2016)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
<b>Strategic Objective 1.3:</b> Courthouse renovations incorporate designs for improving citizens' access to court services	<b>1.3.1 Modernize court facilities in expanded pilot courts to provide adequate and safe access and improve public trust</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop renovation plans for expanded pilot courts</li> <li>◆ Change design in expanded pilot courts (e.g., signage, court directories)</li> <li>◆ Install equipment for expanded pilot courts</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	BLDP+ PRLP+ IP +UNDP	Timely Completion, Court User Satisfaction
	<b>1.3.2 Develop and implement programs for court facilities at all courts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop plans for improvement of facilities of the courts</li> <li>◆ Install equipment for child witness examination rooms in selected courts where the establishment of child friendly environment is feasible based on the joint assessment</li> </ul>	High Priority	BLDP+ HC+ UNICEF	Timely Completion, Court User Satisfaction

**Strategic Action Area 2: Promote Public Awareness (Year 2 Action Plan – 2016)**

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
<b>Strategic Objective 2.1:</b> Improved communication with media and the public	<b>2.1.1 Train judges and court staff on media relation skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage experts to provide trainings for new judges and refreshers at Judicial Training Center</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	TDP+ PRLP+ IP	Number Trained, Pre/ Post Training Tests
	<b>2.1.2 Initiate public information services in courts at different levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage experts to train assigned personnel including training of trainers</li> <li>Develop departmental processes and procedures</li> </ul>	High Priority	IT & PRDP, TDP+ PRLP+ IP	Timely Completion
	<b>2.1.3 Carry out national public information programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement work plan (e.g., informational brochures, website updates, media handbook for judges)</li> <li>Publish judicial journal and annual law report</li> <li>Make Record of USC Activities</li> <li>Develop ASEAN Judiciaries Portal</li> <li>Exchange legislation, legal publications and materials with foreign legal and judicial institutions</li> <li>Publish annual report of 1<sup>st</sup> Year Strategic Action Plan</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2  High Priority  Midterm Priority  Critical Year 2	IT & PRDP+ UNCEF+PRLP+ UNDP LPDP IR&RDP IT & PRDP IR&RDP IC+UNDP	Increased Public Awareness of the Courts (Survey)
<b>Strategic Objective 2.2:</b> Enhance court community information programs	<b>2.2.1 Implement court information initiatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add local courts' information to USC website</li> <li>Add pilot courts' information to USC website</li> <li>Add USC information to USC website</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	IT & PRDP	Increased Public Awareness of the Courts

Strategic Action Area 3: Independence and Accountability (Year 2 Action Plan – 2016)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
<b>Strategic Objective 3.1:</b> Developed capacity to create a unified court budget and to administer budget expenditures to ensure responsible and transparent use of Public resources	<b>3.1.1 Develop capacity to administer unified court budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Training of personnel for budget database</li> <li>♦ Budget narrative preparation</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	BLDP	Timely Budget Submission with Justification Narrative
	<b>3.1.2 Review processes for integrated strategic planning and budget priority setting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Expert assessment of USC's current strategic planning processes</li> <li>♦ Expert assessment of judicial budget prioritization processes</li> <li>♦ Implement applicable organizational and process enhancements at USC</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	IC+ PRLP,  BLDP  BLDP	Strategic Planning Linked to Priority Setting and Budget
<b>Strategic Objective 3.2:</b> Established staff capacities at the OUSC for effective judicial administration	<b>3.2.1 Upgrade the capacity of USC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Upgrade network between USC and HCs</li> <li>♦ Develop record system for lawyers licensed per year</li> <li>♦ Develop record system for Criminal, Civil and Writ Applications per year</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	IT & PRDP+ HC  LIDP+ UNDP  CRJDP+CJDP+ WDP	Efficiency Improvement
	<b>3.2.2 IT Training for USC Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Conduct Basic IT Training for staff</li> <li>♦ Conduct Advanced IT Training for staff</li> <li>♦ Provide Training Courses of Case Management System for staff</li> </ul>	High Priority	TDP+UNDP+ IT & PRDP IP  TDP+PRLP+ CMC	Number of Staff Trained



## Strategic Action Area 4: Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary (Year 2 Action Plan – 2016)

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"><li>◆ 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)</li><li>◆ Pre-service Course Curriculum Update</li><li>◆ Prepare and review curriculum, including review of child friendly justice related modules</li><li>◆ Conduct the analysis of thematic child friendly justice training needs of township and district level judges, judicial officers</li><li>◆ Deliver regular training for judges: refresher courses for township judges and judicial officers; pre-service training course for judicial officers</li><li>◆ Conduct training of trainers at different legal areas</li><li>◆ Conduct joint training with stakeholders for Child Protection &amp; Juvenile Justice</li><li>◆ Conduct seminars, workshops, and courses</li><li>◆ Distribute scholar and legal information</li><li>◆ Draft and implement annual plan for capacity development with international partners</li><li>◆ Share experience on foreign meeting, course, study tour</li><li>◆ Make legal research presentation</li><li>◆ Conduct joint training with ASEAN judiciaries</li><li>◆ Attach judicial officers to foreign courts</li><li>◆ Pursue scholarship programs for young judges</li></ul>	High Priority	TDP+IP/UNDP	Court User Satisfaction, Number of Training Courses Completed, Evaluation of Trainers, Participants & Course Supervisors
		TDP+WG+JICA UNDP TDP+UNICEF  UNICEF  TDP+UNDP+IP UNICEF+JICA  IR&RDP+ IP/ ASEAN-J  IR&RDP+ UNICEF IR&RDP  IR&RDP IR&RDP  IR&RDP			

## Strategic Action Area 4: Maintain Commitment to Ensuring Equality, Fairness and Integrity of the Judiciary (Year 2 Action Plan – 2016)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
	<b>4.1.2 Skill Training for non-judicial court staff to enhance efficiency and public satisfaction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop standardized training curriculum for court staff</li> <li>◆ Assign working group to develop court staff manual (s)</li> <li>◆ Initiate training delivery in pilot courts</li> <li>◆ Provide training on process of receiving complaints/ complaints, petitions and appeals for non-judicial staff</li> <li>◆ Conduct training on ethical and disciplinary guidelines for non-judicial staff</li> </ul>	High Priority	TDP+ HC+ADP+ CRJDP+ CJD	Court User Satisfaction, Pre and Post Training Evaluation, Follow up Evaluation on Effectiveness of Training
	<b>4.1.3 Upgrade court libraries for judges to access knowledge and technical know-how</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Draw action plan for USC library (e.g., preparation for e-library)</li> </ul>	Midterm Priority	IR&RDP+ IT& PRDP+ IP	Work Completion
Strategic Objective 4.2: Enhanced capacity for the professional development of judges	<b>4.2.1 Enhance capacity of the USC Training Department and Judicial Training Center</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Annual study tours to Japan to observe how to implement effective trainings (including training center operation)</li> <li>◆ Prepare organizational development plan (e.g., facilities, library, IT, organizational structure, add staff, curriculum development processes, trainer recruitment, training of trainers)</li> </ul>	High Priority	USCWG+ JICA TDP TDP+JICA	Number of Organizational Improvement Implemented
	<b>4.2.2 Review Ethics Code and develop a judicial professional and ethical development strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Prepare ethical plan</li> <li>◆ Conduct ethical workshops</li> <li>◆ Draft Ethics Code</li> <li>◆ Develop professional development methods and plans</li> <li>◆ Conduct professional development workshops</li> </ul>	High Priority	ECRC+ ICJ+ UNDP PDWG+ PRLP	Timely Completion

## Strategic Action Area 5: Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing (Year 2 Action Plan — 2016)

Strategic Objective	Strategic Initiatives	Actions	Priority	Responsible Persons	Outcome Measures
Strategic Objective 5.1: Improved case management procedures and the best practices developed	<b>5.1.1 Train judges and court staff on case management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage international expert to provide training to judicial officers and judges</li> <li>Engage expert to conduct case management training for High Court, District Court and Township Court judges from high caseload courts</li> <li>Organize intensive case management training for pilot court judges and court staff</li> <li>Provide training of trainers to incorporate case management training into curriculum</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	TDP+ PRLP	Improved Calendar Clearance, Reduced Age of Pending Caseload, Improved Trial Date Certainty, Court User Satisfaction
	<b>5.1.2 Develop case management program procedures and best practices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use case process chart and analysis</li> <li>Develop capacity to facilitate the service of civil process within ASEAN</li> </ul>	Midterm Priority	CMC+ CRJDP+ CJDP+PRLP	
	<b>5.1.3 Communicate changes in case management procedures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop strategy to communicate case management changes to public and key stakeholders (e.g., police, law officers, private attorneys) in pilot court locations</li> <li>Establish Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee, assign terms of references and hold regular meeting</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	PC USC+GP+ UNI-CEF	
	<b>5.1.4 Collect baseline data on calendar clearance, age of pending cases, and time to disposition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review current statistics and implement needed changes (e.g., separate reporting of traffic and other criminal cases)</li> <li>Analyze national statistics to inform case management improvements</li> <li>Conduct closed case survey in pilot courts using random case file sampling to develop detailed data on status of case-flow processing</li> </ul>	Critical Year 2	CRJDP  CMC+ CJDP+ CRJPD+PRLP +UNDP	



## Strategic Action Area 5: Strengthen Efficiency and Timeliness of Case Processing (Year 2 Action Plan — 2016)

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	<b>5.2.1 Review and streamline case flow processes and record-keeping procedures as needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and streamline case flow processes and statistics requested by different departments</li> <li>Review recordkeeping procedures and set procedures</li> <li>Conduct record keeping training for USC and HCs</li> </ul>	High Priority	CMC+ PRLP CMC CMC	Number of Processes and Procedure Streamline
	<b>5.2.2 Initiate development of an automated case management system (CMS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review CMS Design</li> <li>Provide computers and accessories for CMS connection in expanded pilot courts</li> <li>Implement CMS in pilot courts</li> </ul>	Midterm Priority	CMC+ IT& PRDP+ CRJDP+ CJCP+ IP	Number of Courts Using Automated Case Management System
	<b>5.2.3 Prepare an IT master plan for the entire judiciary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft IT Master Plan for entire judiciary</li> </ul>	Midterm Priority	IT&PRDP+ IP	Timely Completion
Strategic Objective 5.3: Through the pilot court case management program legislative changes to promote expeditiousness and timeliness identified	<b>5.3.1 Develop recommended legislative and/or code changes to promote expeditiousness and timeliness in criminal and civil cases</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Writ Application Law and Rules</li> <li>Review backlog cases</li> </ul>	High Priority	CMC+ LPDP+ WDP CJDP+ CRJDP	Number of Law/ Code/ Procedure Changes Recommended
	<b>5.3.2 Reform of laws and its implementation mechanism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate and recommend for law drafting (such as, Arbitration, Evidence, Insolvency and IP laws)</li> <li>Establish Effective IP Disputes Resolution System</li> <li>Create Policy on Legal Structure on Insolvency</li> <li>Prepare and present Legal Research Papers</li> <li>Scrutinize and recommend Bills</li> </ul>	High Priority	IR&RDP+ LPDP+ IP WG+JICA+IP WG+JICA+IP IR&RDP	Number of Law Amended and Drafted

## ABBREVIATION

ADP	Administrative Department
ASEAN J	ASEAN Judiciaries
BLDP	Budgets and Logistics Department
CJDP	Civil Justice Department
CRJDP	Criminal Justice Department
CMC	Case Management Committee
CMS	Case Management System
ECRC	Ethic Codes Review Committee
GP	Government Partner
HC	High Court
IC	Strategic Plan Implementation Committee
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists
IP	International Partners
IR & RDP	International Relation and Research Department
IT	Information Technology
IT & PRDP	Information Technology and Public Relation Department



## ABBREVIATION

JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LPDP	Law and Procedure Department
LIDP	Lawyers and Inspection Department
OUSC	Office of the Union Supreme Court
OUSCWG	Working Group of Office of the Supreme Court of the Union
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
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USC	Union Supreme Court
WDP	Writs Department









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