



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement by

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Charge d'Affaires a.i

at the Second Regular Session of the Executive Board of the UNDP/UNFPA and UNOPS

UNFPA Segment

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(Please check against delivery)

Mr. President,

I would like, on behalf of the Lao PDR Delegation, to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to Dr. Osotimehin, Executive Director and his team for excellent work in steering the UNFPA in the discharge of its mandates. We would like to join others to thank the Executive Director for his introductory statement to the board.

Mr. President,

The post-2015 development agenda has been adopted at the end of last year and it is a high time now to put those goals into implementation. To ensure the success of SDGs, UNFPA will be a key partner since a number of goals under SDGs are involved the work of UNFPA. Therefore, The UNFPA needs to continue to play its primary role in ensuring sexual and reproductive health, youth, gender equality, and development. My delegation welcomes the focus of UNFPA's work in 2016 in prioritizing sexual and reproductive health, youth, data and South-South cooperation. We encourage UNFPA to continue to effectively implement the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan, integrate population policies into overall national development plans according to the needs of countries programme, and increase the inputs on capacity building, especially the capacity of developing countries.

Mr. President,

My delegation took note the report of the evaluation of the UNFPA support to family planning 2008-2013. The report provides lesson learns and captures good practices from UNFPA experience in family planning. Overall, UNFPA has achieved significant process in revitalizing its own commitment and attention to advance family planning globally. The Agency effectively maintains its country presence and develops close relationships with national government. It successfully advocates for renewed national commitments to family planning and effectively supports national governments to increase investment for reproductive health commodity security and supports strengthened management of supplies for contraceptives chains. We believe that the Agency should further implement the recommendations of the evaluation report, especially to ensure that the headquarter and regional office technical input on support to family planning is available to country office staff early in the programme design process.

Mr. President,

My delegation continues to be concerned with the decrease of both core and non-core funding and the impact of the reduced resource allocation to country programme and the consequence which will have on the human development of our population including women and youth. The imbalance between core and non-core budget poses major concern for the Agency. It will not be possible for the Agency to effectively and efficiently deliver service and assistance according to the plan. We hope that the agency will be able to find solutions in mobilizing sufficient resources and addressing funding gaps to support the implementation of the population and development programme at the country level.

In closing, my delegation wishes to reiterate our strong commitment in working with UNFPA in the implementation of its mandate. We assure you, Mr. President, of our full support and contribute constructively for the successful work of this session.

I thank you, Mr. President.