



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

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Statement by

Mr. MaythongThammavongsa, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Permanent  
Representative of the Lao PDR to the United Nations

Charge d'Affaires a.i

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

UNFPA Country Programmes and Related Matters

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*( Please check against delivery)*

Mr. President,

Let me express my appreciation to the Director of Regional Bureau for the Asia-Pacific, as well as to the UNFPA Country Office in Vientiane for their effective collaboration in preparing this Country Programme Document (CPD) for the period of 2017-2021. The consultative process has been broad, inclusive and comprehensive that involved key stakeholders concerned.

The country programme document has been built on priority of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Social Economic Development Plan (NSED) 2016-2020, including the Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Strategy. It also aligns with the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPF) 2017-2021 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The country programme has been formulated in consultation with Government and other stakeholders to improve the coverage and quality of sexual and reproductive health information and services to women and young people, especially adolescent girls. The programme will strengthen policy framework and means of implementation to ensure universal and equitable access to sexual and reproductive health services; increase national capacity to deliver comprehensive midwifery services to ensure safe pregnancy, delivery, and childbirth services; increase availability of gender-sensitive sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services for adolescent.

In this regards, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to thank UNFPA and the international community for their assistance and support to the Lao PDR in the implementation of the previous country programmes and we believe that such assistance and support will be continued for the implementation of the new country programme.

We also welcome the appointment of new country representative of UNFPA in Lao PDR. We hope that the new country representative will bring impetus and fresh energy to cooperate and support the Lao Government in the implementation of this county programme.

I thank you, Mr. President.