



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

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Statement by
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of the Lao PDR to the United Nations

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of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
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(*Please check against delivery*)

Mr. president,

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of the Lao PDR, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the president and others for their election as the member of the Bureau of the UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS Executive Board for 2016. I firmly believe that under your able leadership the work of the Board will be guided to a successful outcome. You can rest assured of my delegation's full support and cooperation in the discharge of your duty.

I would like to thank H.E. Madam Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator for her statement that elaborated on the past engagement, achievement and vision for the future work of the UNDP in addressing challenges we are facing.

Mr. president,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the delegation of Thailand on behalf of G77 and China. I wish to make a few remarks on my national capacity.

The 2016 is a crucial year for the long journey of the commencement of the implementation of the new chapter of our development agenda. The 2030 agenda for sustainable development adopted at the UN Summit last year together with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the COP 21 outcome are among the major pillars that we have to jointly carry out for the brighter future of our people and planet that leave no one behind.

To meet those ambitious goals, UNDP is a vital partner for developing countries, particularly for least developed countries. As it has been demonstrated, UNDP together with other UN system agencies have contributed greatly in promoting and helping countries to meet the MDGs, and other international agreed goals and targets, and to mitigate the adverse effects from crises and disasters around the world. Among others, as set out in the UNDP strategic plan for 2014-2017 and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, poverty eradication remains the core pillar to be addressed by the international community and governments of member states. UNDP will continue to be the significant partner in supporting, integrating and helping governments to mainstream the agenda into national socio-economic development plans and their implementation.

Mr. president,

In the Lao PDR, UNDP has engaged constructively as partnership in providing technical expertise and policy advice to the government in the formulation and implementation of the national socio-economic development plan. UNDP has actively and meaningfully engaged in the Round Table Process, an inclusive national development forum, where the government and partners engage in regular, direct dialogue on policy priorities and programmes. In this regard, my delegation would like to express our most sincere appreciation once again for her personal commitment of the UNDP Administrator to participate and engage in the High Level Roundtable Meeting taken place in November last year in the Lao PDR where the *Vientiane Partnership Declaration*, a ten-year framework for development co-operation which aims to ensure the maximum impact for human and sustainable development in Lao PDR through to 2025 was endorsed. This has shown the commitment of UNDP in engaging as a significant development partnership of the Lao PDR.

Mr. president,

One of the important challenges for us all will be the issue of means of implementation. In this regard, my delegation welcomes the UNDP initiative to explore more alternative funding and expertise from South-South and Triangular cooperation as a complement to the traditional North-South cooperation. We also support the learning-by-doing approach in the implementation of this initiative. We are looking forward to participating in further deliberation of the strategy.

Mr. president,

In conclusion, as a member of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, my delegation will actively and constructively engage in carrying out our tasks and mandates. I wish the Board a great success in implementing its noble tasks.

I thank you.