



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

(Please check against delivery)

Statement

By

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United Nations

at the UN Security Council Open Debate entitled "Towards the 75th
anniversary of the United Nations: Upholding the UN Charter to
Maintain International Peace and Security"

New York, 13 January 2020

Mr. President,

At the outset, let me express my delegation's sincere congratulations to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on its election to the UN Security Council and on assuming the presidency of the UN Security Council for the month of January.

My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of Azerbaijan and the Philippines on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and ASEAN, respectively.

It is my honor to speak at this important open debate which is of great significance and timely as the international community is marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

Since its inception, the United Nations has made significant achievements in many fronts, making significant contributions to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security. The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security by performing its duties in accordance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. At the same time, the Member States agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. All this has proven that the role of the United Nations remains strongly relevant after more than seven decades.

Mr. President,

The international community is now facing ever increasing challenges. These include, among others, armed conflicts, terrorism and extremism, political unrests, climate change, natural disasters, widening inequality and extreme poverty. The current situation has posed serious threats to international peace, security and sustainable development in various parts of the world. Therefore, we are of the view that it is high time for all countries to reaffirm our strong political will and commitment to strengthening multilateralism by upholding the UN Charter and international law, in particular, the principles of sovereign equality of state, independence, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs and peaceful settlement of disputes in our pursuit of addressing current challenges and promoting international relations.

Mr. President,

The Lao PDR recognizes that without peace, development cannot take root and human rights cannot be upheld. Therefore, multilateralism, enhancement of cooperation at all levels and creating a conducive environment for peace and development are of great importance. In this connection, the United Nations system, especially the UN Security Council should further enhance its efforts and central role in the maintenance of international peace and security while every Member State should honor its commitments and fulfill its international obligations and responsibilities in good faith.

Mr. President,

Let me conclude by stressing the importance of making the United Nations more effective, more responsive and more relevant to all, and by calling for a collective political will and renewed commitment to upholding the Charter and international law.

Thank you for your kind attention.