



# Lao People's Democratic Republic

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**Statement by**

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Second Secretary**

Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the  
United Nations

at the Second Committee of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of  
The United Nations General Assembly

On Agenda Item 18:

**“Macroeconomic Policy Question”**

New York, October 11, 2018  
(Please Check Against Delivery)

**Mr. Chairman,**

1. At the outset, I wish to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the Second Committee. I assure you of our support and cooperation in the discharge of your duty.

2. My delegation also wishes to align itself with the statements just delivered by the distinguished representatives of Egypt, Indonesia, and Malawi on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Group of least developed Countries (LDCs) respectively.

**Mr. Chairman,**

3. Given the current geopolitical and economic landscape and despite gradual global economic recovery, the developing countries, especially the groups of countries in special situations continue to face numerous challenges in the process of their national development. The challenges that the groups of countries in special situations continue to face are, inter alia, commodity price volatility, low productive capacity and mostly non-diversified export structure typically concentrated on few bulky primary agricultural and extractive commodities that make them highly vulnerable to external shocks, lack of direct territorial access to the sea and remoteness from the world market. These groups of countries in the special situations with the combined population of more than half a billion people should not be left behind as committed by the international community in the 2030 Agenda. Therefore, priority should be given in their national development efforts as well as in the implementation of the agreed global initiatives such as SDGs through the strengthened global partnership mobilize adequate resources for financing the sustainable development. In this connection, we call upon all countries to implement the commitment made under the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) and other global agendas.

**Mr. Chairman,**

4. At the national level, the Lao Government attaches great importance to the implementation of global development agendas as demonstrated in the mainstreaming of the 2030 Agenda, AAAA and other global development initiatives into its 8<sup>th</sup> Five-Year National Socio - Economic Development Plan 2016–2020 that focused on three dimensions of sustainable development: sustained economic growth, social development and environmental protection so as to ensure that the development of our country move on the path of sustainable development. The Lao PDR continues to open up to expand trade and economic cooperation with other countries and regions. The Lao PDR is actively

participating the ASEAN Economic Community that includes, among others, trade in goods, trade in services and ASEAN investment area. At the same time, the Lao PDR is participating in the free trade arrangements together with other ASEAN Member States with many of our dialogue partners such China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand and actively participating in the negotiations under the framework of the regional economic partnership involving ASEAN and six dialogue partners mentioned above. Furthermore, the Lao PDR has commercial relations with more 50 countries to date.

**Mr. Chairman,**

**5.** Let me conclude by reiterating that the Lao Government is committed and determined to realizing the SDGs with the goal of leaving no one behind. I also strongly believe that the outcomes of these meeting identified ways and means to mobilize resources to support the developing countries in order to turn a vision into a reality and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and its target together.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.