



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

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Intervention by

Mr. Soudchai VANNASIN, Second Secretary,

Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations at the Sixth Committee of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Agenda item 83: "Rule of Law at the National and International Levels"

New York, October 18, 2023

Mr. Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of the Philippines, on behalf of ASEAN, and the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement respectively.

My delegation takes note of the Secretary-General's report contained in document A/78/184 in promoting the rule of law and highlights the work of the United Nations on strengthening and coordinating rule of law activities.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation is of the view that upholding the Rule of Law is of great importance as it contributes to the maintenance of global peace and security, which form fundamental condition for advancing sustainable development. In this context, the promotion and development of the international legal instruments, norms, standards and rules should be deliberated base on the principles enshrined in the UN Charter and international law.

My delegation is also of the view that the activities carried out by relevant UN agencies have made important contribution, especially in strengthening appropriate capacity to promote the rule of law and related international legal instruments at national level, which will pave a way for effective implementation of the SDGs, particularly SDG-16. In this regard, all member states, the least developed countries in particular, should continue to receive support and assistance especially in enhancing human resource capacity to implement their national strategies and plans in-line with the relevant international conventions.

Mr. Chair,

At national level, the Lao PDR has upheld its firm commitment to build a rule of law state and promote good governance. In this connection, the National Assembly has adopted and implemented Five-Year Plan on Developing and Amending Legal Instruments (2021-2025). In this context, the Lao Government

aims to develop and amend 96 laws in total and to this date, more than 30% of that target has been achieved. This process has been carried out in a transparent, accountable and participatory manner. Over the past years, the Lao PDR has deployed its utmost efforts to fulfill its obligations under the international conventions it is a party to, including customary international law.

On prevention and anti-corruption, the Lao PDR has continued to implement the Plan of Action on Prevention and Anti-corruption 2016-2025, which has been incorporated into the current Five-year National Social Economic Development Plan.

With regard to the sub-topic suggested by the Secretary-General on “using technology to advance access to justice for all”, my delegation is of the view that, in this digital era, the use of digital technology is crucial. In building the rule of law state and ensuring access to justice for all, the Lao Government has attached great importance to development and improvement of digital platforms, which include hot lines, social media, E-Office, information sharing system, mobile applications, among others. For emergency preparedness and remedies, accurate and reliable statistical and data system has been made available and accessible for all citizens.

Mr. Chair,

To conclude, my delegation reaffirms the Lao PDR’s commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development in particular the SDGs 16 and stands ready to cooperate and work closely with all member states, international organizations and all stakeholders to realize this objective.

Thank you for your kind attention.