



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

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Statement by

Mr. Sackpaseuth SISOUK, Third Secretary,

Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United  
Nations at the Third Committee of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations  
General Assembly

Agenda item 29: Advancement of Women

New York, 5 October 20

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statement made by the representative of Thailand on behalf of ASEAN. However, I would like to make few remarks in my national capacity.

The Lao PDR always attaches great importance to the empowerment of women and gender equality. This can be evidenced from the provisions in the constitution and relevant laws and regulations of our country stipulating that the state has the responsibility to adopt a policy to develop and promote the advancement of women so that they can be on equal footing with men in terms of legal rights, economic and social opportunities.

Therefore, to realize the above objectives and to implement the international initiatives such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, relevant SDGs and targets, the Government has mainstreamed the women empowerment and gender equality into the successive Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Plans, including the current 8<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016-2020. In the meantime, the Vision for Development of Lao Women 2030, the Strategic Development Plan for Lao Women 2025 and the Five-Year Lao Women Development Plan 2020-2025 which aim to protect the rights and create opportunities for women in the process of the national socio-economic development are being implemented by the National Commission for the Advancement of Women and Mothers and Children and the Lao Women Union. Furthermore, women empowerment and gender equality-related domestic laws were enacted. These includes Law on the Development and Protection of Women, Law on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Children, Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children, Law on Women Union, Law on Family and Law on Anti-Trafficking in Persons. The enforcement of these laws promotes advancement of women and protects their rights and interests in politics, economy, culture and society as well as in the family. As a result, more and more women have been able to be in important positions in the executive, legislative and judiciary branches as well as in the private sector.

Mr. Chairman,

At international level, the Lao Government continues to fulfill its obligations under the international treaties, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to empowerment and gender equality. In early November this year, it shall present the combined Eighth and Ninth Periodic report on implementation of the

CEDAW. And as a member of ASEAN, the Lao PDR is actively participating in the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Women and its subsidiary bodies.

In conclusion, my delegation reiterates that the Lao PDR is committed to the development of women, and the promotion and protection of the rights of women so that their full potential can be realized.

I thank you.