



Lao People's Democratic Republic

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 73rd Session of

The United Nations General Assembly

On Agenda Item 24:

“ Eradication of Poverty ”

New York, October 17, 2018

(Please Check Against Delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

1. My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished representatives of Egypt, Cambodia and Malawi on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, ASEAN and the Group of LDCs respectively.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Eradication of poverty is the top priority of the developing countries, especially the countries in the special situations such as LDCs and LLDCs because extreme poverty continues to hamper their social-economic development. To this end, poverty eradication is embedded in almost every, if not all, the agreed global development agendas such as the 2030 Agenda. To be effective, poverty eradication needs to be tackled in a holistic approach as this issue cuts across various sectors. More immediate, concerted efforts through enhanced partnerships are needed from all stakeholders at all levels to support the implementation of the SDGs should we want to achieve such a lofty goal of leaving no one behind as committed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by all member states of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

3. My delegation finds that, among others, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on the financing for development and the SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development should be implemented in earnest to mobilize adequate resources to support the implementation of the SDGs focusing, in particular, on the eradication of poverty while certainly, the leadership and ownership of every government are vital.

Mr. Chairman,

4. At the national level, the Lao Government adopted several policies and measures to tackle poverty. Therefore, the Government has further undertaken a national policy reform to mobilize sufficient resources to support the implementation of its national development

plan which include not only relevant goals and targets of the 2030 agenda, but also elements of other agreed global development initiatives such as IPoA and VPoA. In addition, the Lao PDR adopted the national SDG 18 entitled “Lives Safe from UXO”, aiming at mitigating the impact of UXOs and improving the lives of the rural population. The Lao Government has taken various policies and measures to increase the mobilization of domestic resources, but due to the small base of our economy, only limited amount has been mobilized. Therefore, to ensure the effective implementation of the above mentioned national development plan, the Lao PDR has been working closely with the UN Country Team, development partners and other stakeholders to mobilize resources from external sources including the official development assistance, foreign direct investment to support the implementation of the current 8th Five – Year National Socio – Economic Development Plan (2016 –2020).

5. Such external support and assistance combined with our limited domestic resources have made important contribution to the progress made in our national development process. Notwithstanding that, the Lao PDR, as both LDC and LLDC, is still facing challenges in the process of its national development. This year, among other things, the country was reeling under the long spell of flooding causing the loss of life and properties on a massive scale. This has compromised the progress made in the national development thus far.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Let me conclude by reaffirming the Lao PDR’s strong commitment to eradicate poverty and pursue the path of sustainable development with the aim of achieving the SDGs and lifting the country out of poverty, thereby, improving the well-being of the Lao people. Taking this opportunity, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to all friendly countries, development partners, and international organizations for your continued support and assistance extended to the Lao PDR in our national development efforts.

I thank you.