



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

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Remarks by H.E Mr. Anouparb VONGNORKEO, Ambassador and Permanent  
Representative of the Lao PDR to the United Nations  
at a Virtual Extraordinary Meeting of the CoB-NAM on the international campaign  
against Cuba

(21 July 2021 at 15:00-17:00)

Mr. Chair,  
Distinguished delegates,

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to you, Mr. Chair and Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan, for hosting this virtual extraordinary meeting.

My delegation would like to join previous speakers in thanking Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Cuba for the informative and useful presentation and is pleased to learn that the recent disturbances taking place recently in some localities of Cuba have been calmed down and the peace and security has been maintained in Cuba.

The Lao PDR reiterates its consistent view that the application of unilateral measures with extraterritorial implications will not only contravene the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, but also hamper national development of other countries, including Cuba. In this connection, we reiterate our call for lifting of the embargo against Cuba at the earliest possible.

We hope that the parties concerned will seek possible and constructive solutions to create an environment conducive to the enhancement of dialogue and cooperation, that will contribute to improving the well-being of the Cuban people, which have endured hardship due to the prolonged embargo, and to enable Cuba to pursue its sustainable development and engage in trade and economic cooperation with nations around the world, while addressing the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

In this regard, I would like to commend the government of Cuba for their remarkable efforts and contribution to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the successful development of its COVID-19 vaccine and together with 4 vaccine candidates that are culminating their clinical trials. I strongly believe that these achievements will contribute to containing the pandemic while addressing the socio-economic development challenges within the country and other parts of the world.

Lastly, we reaffirm our strong support to Cuba for its legitimate struggles to enjoy an unobstructed freedom to develop, prosper and provide its people with a life of hope and dignity, which is the inherent right of all nations and peoples.

I thank you, Mr. chair.