



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

Statement by

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

at the Third Committee of the 73rd Session of the United Nations
General Assembly

Agenda item 70: Promotion and Protection on the Rights of Children

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(Please check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statement made by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of ASEAN. However, I wish to highlight additional points in my national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

The continuous efforts of the international community and national governments to promote and protect the rights of the child have made steady progress. However, much more need to be done as the protection of the rights of the child still faces multiple challenges as in many parts of the world, poverty, hunger, disease, natural disasters, child labor and conflicts are still adversely affecting the fundamental rights of children.

Mr. Chairman,

The Lao government attaches great importance to the protection of the rights of the child as children represent the future and the hope of a nation. It has been our consistent policy to promote the development of children. The Government has made significant progress incorporating the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into national laws and policies to promote and protect the rights of the child.

As a state party to the CRC and its two Optional Protocols, the Lao Government takes the CRC reviewing process seriously as it provides an opportunity for the government to demonstrate what we have done for children in terms of promotion and protection of their rights and interests. Therefore, last month the Government presented the Third to Sixth Periodic report during the Seventy-Ninth Session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva, to update the international

community about our national policies, actions and achievements in implementation of the above policies to promote and protect the rights of the child, and also to share our experiences and learn the good practices of other countries.

At regional level, the Lao PDR has contributed to the development of children in ASEAN in terms of institutional building and standard setting. The Lao PDR actively participates in the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and together with fellow ASEAN Member States implement the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, the ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Children and the ASEAN Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children. The Lao PDR is also leading in the ACWC thematic studies on Regional Review on Laws, Policies and Practices within ASEAN relating to the Identification, Management and Treatment of Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

Mr. Chairman,

To conclude, although much progress has been made in the Lao PDR, more needs to be done to promote and protect the rights of the child. My country will continue to fulfill its international obligations, and work with the international community to build better life for our children.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.