



# Lao People's Democratic Republic

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## Statement by

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of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

at the Ministerial Segment of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable  
Development

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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguishes delegates,

My delegation wishes to express sincere congratulations to you and other members of Bureau, on your election as President of the Ministerial Segment of the High-level Political Forum ( HLPF ) on Sustainable Development under the auspices of ECOSOC. I am confident that under your able Presidency, the HLPF will be crowned with a great success. My delegation associates itself with the statements made by Thailand, Bangladesh, and Zambia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, LDCs, and LLDCs respectively.

Mr. President,

The HLPF on Sustainable Development under the theme “*ensuring that no one is left behind*” is convened at a critical juncture after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. As stipulated in the General Assembly resolution 67/290, the HLPF is the United Nations central platform for following up and reviewing progress of the 2030 Agenda and mandated to provide guidance and recommendations in the implementation of sustainable development commitments, particularly, means of implementation within the framework of the 2030 Agenda. Therefore, this is an important forum for all of us to share our views and identify new emerging issues that require policy actions at national and global levels as well as to reaffirm our political commitment in attaining the ambitious global sustainable development agenda by 2030.

Mr. President,

Over the one and a half decade, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) provided the important global framework for the international community to address development needs. As a result, developing countries, including my own have made good progress in the implementation of the MDG goals and targets. Many countries were on track in achieving the MDG of halving extreme poverty by 2015. The implementation of the MDGs has made important contribution to improving the well - being of people in developing countries. Nevertheless, some of the MDGs remain off track and development progress has encountered numerous challenges especially countries in special situation namely, LDCs,

LLDCs, and SIDS. These challenges have continued to pose some major constraints for developing countries in various aspects in achieving the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, particularly in reducing poverty and hunger, health, environmental protection, among others.

Mr. President,

My delegation is of the view that, effort to reduce extreme poverty and overcome other daunting challenges in attaining the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development in the next decade would not be possible without further strengthening international development cooperation under the framework of global partnership, providing adequately resources, efficient and effective UN system in supporting the implementation of the SDGs with particular attention given to the eradication of poverty and promoting sustainable development and inclusive economic growth in developing countries. In this connection, my delegation calls on donor countries to honor their commitment to provide financing for UN operational activities, particularly in core as well as flexible non-core resources which are key to ensuring the effective operation of UN entities with a view to supporting developing countries to achieve global development agenda.

Mr. President,

At the country level, although my country is classified as both least developed and landlocked country, the Lao government is strongly committed to achieving its national development objectives and the global development goals and targets with particular focus on addressing poverty and to continue to attain off-track MDG targets and ultimately to graduate from LDC status. To this end, the Lao Government has developed several policies and programs for social and economic development. Including infrastructure linkages with a view to ensuring efficient transport system creating favorable conditions for sustained growth and poverty reduction as well as enhancing regional integration by providing greater access for the people to public services such as health and education, domestic and global markets while integrating the national economy with the region.

Since the adoption of the SDGs at country level, the SDGs goals and targets have been mainstreamed into our current 8<sup>th</sup> five year National Social Economic Development Plan 2016 – 2020 (NSEDP). As a result, with almost 60 percents of NSEDP indicators have been linked to SDGs indicators. Given particular development challenges, the Government will also continue its effort to achieve

localized off-track MDG on reducing impact of unexploded ordnance (UXO), which has been adopted as localized SDG 18 for our country.

Mr. President,

Taking into account the importance of Sustainable Development and ensuring that no one is left behind, my delegation believe that, global development framework should also develop supportive policies and institutional mechanisms in order to enable member states to achieve their development objectives. Moreover, the follow up and review of the implementation of 2030 Agenda should include all the 17 goals and 169 targets of SDGs and should capture all the components of related activities of the development of developing countries. The follow up and review should also operate in the context of exchange of best practices and experiences and mutual learning at national, regional and global levels.

By way of conclusion, my delegation reiterates that the Lao Government is committed and determined to achieve its national development goals and global development agenda by working closely with development partners, UN- agencies and other international organizations. I wish our deliberation a success.

I thank you.