

Statement by

Ambassador Anouparb Vongnorkeo, Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR
at the General Debate of the 56th Session of the Commission Population Development

On the Agenda Item 3 (b): Population, Education and Sustainable Development

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(Please check against delivery)

Mr. Chair,

At the outset, I wish to congratulate you and members of the bureau on your election to this 56th Session of CPD and assure you of our full support and cooperation. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by delegation of Cuba and Nepal on behalf of the group 77 and China and LDCs respectively.

Mr. Chair,

Since the adoption of ICPD Programme of Action in 1994, especially after the ICPD 25 voluntary commitment made at the Nairobi Summit, Lao PDR has made significant progress in the implementation of the Program at country level. In this context, the National Population and Development Policy for 2019-2030 was developed with support from UNFPA. This policy aims at improving the overall well-being of people with particular attention given to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender equality and women empowerment. In addition, a number of national action plans have been implemented which have resulted in notable demographic transition, providing demographic window of opportunity which will significantly contribute to socio

available sources of financing for education and health, in particular in areas such as family planning and reproductive health, which according to recent studies, will provide the highest return on investment and yield multiple benefits, allowing every pregnancy to be planned, reduction in teenage pregnancies and stunting, potential increase in school retention as well as stronger workforce participation of women. All this, will help to ensure that young population are empowered and contribute more to our national development efforts and post pandemic recovery.

Mr Chair,

In conclusion, the Lao PDR reaffirms its unwavering commitment to continue implementing the ICPD Plan of Action and to attain the SDG targets related to population and development and at this critical juncture, increased support by the international community remains crucial. I thank you.