

Statement by

H.E Dr. Bounfeng Phoummalaysith, Minister of Health of the Lao PDR
at the 57th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD57)

New York, 29 April - 3 May 2024

Mr. Chair,

It is my great honor to represent the government of the Lao PDR in this 57th Session of the Commission on Population and Development today.

Since its adoption in Cairo in 1994, the Lao government has incorporated ICPD into our National Social and Economic Development Plans, sectoral strategies, and policies. To ensure their effective implementation, the National Population and Development Policy was established in close collaboration with development partners to deliver transformative results, especially in key areas including zero

- Establishing a National Coordination Committee on Population and Development.

Second, addressing climate challenges faced by the health sector and other social sectors by:

- Increasing investments for building a resilient healthcare system, including life-saving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) response services.
- Generating robust evidence and data focusing on the social and gender dimensions of climate change, including SRH and GBV to inform national strategies and other action plans.
- Establishing a dedicated network of actors on climate change and women's and girls' rights, comprising government institutions, private sector and civil society.

Third, improving people's health and well-being, including their sexual and reproductive health and rights by:

- Increasing investments in family planning and mobilizing partnerships and resources for national family planning programmes through developing a comprehensive family planning strategy

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using new technologies, science and technology innovations, promoting entrepreneurship and job creation to Leave No One Behind.

Mr. Chair,

In conclusion, I wish to reaffirm the Government of Lao PDR's strong commitment to fully implement the existing national and subnational population development plans, policies, and strategies aligned with ICPD PoA and SDGs. Towards this end, increased support by the international community remains crucial. I would like, once again to express on behalf of the Lao government, our sincere appreciation to all development partners for the continued