This session was moderated by   , Chief of Policy Analysis and Development Branch, Financing for Development Office, UNDESA.

                    , Senior Programme Officer, Deputy to the Chief (for Subprogramme 1, LDCs), UN

He noted that considering Lao PDR's financial needs from 2016 to 2020 (5-year socio economic development), it needs an integrated finance framework and a holistic overview of the financing options. According to the estimates, the external support required is around $27 billion in the next 5 years. More than half of this estimate would come from foreign and domestic private investment. The public sector and international resources (ODA) are expected to contribute only one quarter of the total.

The government has initiated an aid plan with the overall objective of LDC graduation and SDGs achievement. Through Development Finance and Aid Assessment (DFAA), the government aims to have a better understanding of the current and future flows of development finance. The DFAA also provides insights into the types of policies and institutional arrangements required to manage full scope of the development finance. It also provides key recommendations for formulating an integrated financing strategy for the next cycle. To this end, coherent policies and institutional arrangements are required to align financial flows with national priorities.

On-going efforts are centred on three strategic priorities: leverage the private sector to support the achievements of the

Participants also enquired about methodology and evaluation process of DFAs; strategies to enhance the efficiency of statistical analysis; and involvement of the private sector in the DFA. In response, UNDP emphasized that an integrated approach across different stakeholders and ministries is needed in the planning process. DFAs would contribute to the preparation of the national development strategy and resource mobilization strategy. The scope of a DFA and its focus are different from country to country,

progress is inadequate. It was mentioned that there is need to strengthen the feedback mechanism in the policy system. The regional forum for sustainable development provides a basis for discussion on impact of the monitoring and evaluation. ECA mentioned that policy implementation and sequencing are critical, and prioritization can be informed by assessment of impact of intervention in one sector on the other, in order to understand the multiplier effect of the intervention. In this regard, LDCs face the biggest challenge of lack of data to inform evidence-based policy making.

of the Gambia noted that the IPoA had not been visible in his country until the mid

at forums like the annual meeting of the National Focal Points. She illustrated Finland's support for LDCs in major UN negotiation processes. Finland has prioritized funding to LDCs as an effective way to achieve the 2030 Agenda. Finland supports the Secretary General's reform to make the UN more relevant and fit for purpose so as to make best use of resources. She outlined priority areas of UN reform from Finland's perspective, i.e. reform of the UN country teams, gender mainstreaming in the UN development work, and UN funding architecture. Finland appreciates views from the LDCs on the reform of the UN country teams, and hopes LDCs will take an active part in the reform process. Finally, she stressed the importance of gender equality and inclusive development, particularly inclusion of youth and women in the planning and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. She also shared Finland's national priorities and practice in gender mainstreaming.

Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS delivered a closing statement.

09:30 – 09:55	
10:00 – 10:30	, Chief, Policy Development, Coordination and Reporting Service of the UN-OHRLLS; Officer-in-Charge, UN- OHRLLS Permanent Representative of Bangladesh and Chair, LDC group
10:30-13:00	, Chief of Policy Analysis and Development Branch, Financing for Development Office, UN-DESA