



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

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Statement by Mr. Thiphasone Sengsourinha, Second Secretary,  
Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations  
at the Sixth Committee of the 67th Session of the General Assembly  
on the agenda item: 83 the rule of law at the national and international levels  
New York, 10 October 2012

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your assumption as Chairman of the Sixth Committee for the 67th Session of the General Assembly, and I assure you and the Bureau of my delegation's full support and cooperation under your leadership throughout this session.

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Representatives of Vietnam on behalf of ASEAN and Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

The rule of law is a fundamental principle framework that governs our collective action at both national and international levels. It ensures the principle of justice in accordance with the UN Charter and underpins the three pillars of the UN: peace and security, development, and human rights. It is indeed that the rule of law guides us to a just and fair action that would benefit all members of the community.

Mr. Chairman,

As a multi-ethnic nation, the Lao PDR sees the value of a country governed by the rule of law. We therefore, reaffirm our commitment to global efforts aimed at strengthening universal rule of law. Since the adoption of the national Constitution in

1991, the Lao Government has extensively undertaken various measures on promoting the rule of law in the country. To date, more than 90 laws and legislations were adopted. In addition, a large number of sub-laws including Presidential Decrees and Ordinances, Prime Ministers' Decrees, ministerial and provincial regulations and other legal acts, have also been passed in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Lao PDR. All this has formed part of the national legal framework for enhancing the rule of law in the Lao PDR.

In 2009, the Lao Government has adopted a Legal Sector Master Plan that aims, among other things, at enhancing capacity, procedures, and standards of legislative development; improving legal institutions and system; promoting public awareness of legal rights and public participation in the legal system, as well as increasing effective implementation international instruments to which the Lao PDR is state party.

In order to meet its international obligations in promoting the rule of law, the Lao PDR has already become party to and ratified more than 100 multilateral treaties, almost 200 regional treaties including under the ASEAN cooperative framework, and more than 300 bilateral treaties. Every year, the Lao PDR participates in the UN Annual Treaty Event held as the side event of the GA session in New York, where the Lao PDR deposits its instruments of ratification to the international instrument to United Nations including three treaties this year, namely Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries; Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity. A number of key treaties and conventions are also being considered at national level for accession and ratification in the years to come. This development reflects the genuine willingness and strong commitment of the Lao PDR towards the advancement of national and international rule of law.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.