

**Statement of H.E. Ms Baykham Kettiya Minister of Labour and Social Welfare of Lao People's Democratic Republic**

**FOR The Asia-pacific Ministerial Conferment on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR)**

**Ministerial Forum meeting on 19 September 2022**

**(14:30-17:00) Brisbane, Australia**

- **Your Excellency Madame/Mr. Chair,**
- **Excellency Fellow Ministers responsible for Asia-pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR)**
- **Delegates, Ladies and gentlemen**

On behalf of the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), I have a great pleasure to attend and address at the Asia-pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) today. The government of Lao PDR acknowledges the importance of disaster risk reduction and has been attempting all its efforts to reduce the risks of both natural and man-made disasters that bring about the negative impacts to human life, property, natural environment and national social and economic development. To indicate such importance, the government has the disaster risk reduction as a priority area in its national social and economic development agenda in line with Sendai framework 2015-2030 on 4 priority global targets and indicators.

In 2019 Lao PDR has enacted the Disaster Management Law, adopted the decree of Climate Change and, national strategy on disaster risk reduction, established the Disaster management Fund and promoted resilience through the SEADRIF insurance. Improving the mandate of and building capacity for the disaster management committee at all level, to respond to disaster and implementation Climate Change adaptation action. In addition, The government has developed the forecasting and early warning system and implemented the strategy on disaster risk reduction in the agriculture sector rural development and poverty reduction. The Government has done outstanding work to handle a member of mega disaster event sine 2018, particularly the Great Flood in Sanamxay District, Attapeu province. To

Sustain the progress, flood, Barriers were built to protect Vientian Capital , Xayaboury ,Oudomxay,Borikhamxay and Champarsack province.

Despite progress, there are some continuing challenges to make Lao PDR more resilient to the next disaster shock. They are particularly a shortage of fund, equipment supplies, high technology tools, and the availability of technical staff as well as DRR experts to respond to specific challenges

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Lao PDR will enhance its disaster risk governance and disaster risk reduction systems by further enhancing the existing mechanism with a focus on village and community base approach and has committed to conduct a national Mid Term Review of the Sendai Framework; assess new challenges posed by the changing risk landscape, identify strategies to scale up financing for disaster risk reduction, and mobilize all sectors and partners in society to accelerate action.

Lastly, I would like to express that Lao PDR will keep on working closely in partnership with all friendship nations and international development partners to take an action on Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. It is hopefully that all friendship nations and international development partners keep on cooperating with and supporting Lao PDR on Disaster Risk Reduction.

**Thank you very much**