

**Statement by**

**H.E. Mr. Thongphane SAVANPHET, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the  
Lao PDR, Head of Delegation,**

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**(3 minutes ~ 300 Words)**

**Mr. President,**

1. At the outset, the Lao delegation would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you, Ambassador Azzeddine Farhane, the Kingdom of Morocco, on your election as the President of the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the IAEA General Conference. I would like to commend you and your team in organizing this important meeting amid the global pandemic challenge. I am confident that with your extensive experience, you will lead the conference to a great success. The Lao PDR stands ready to fully support your presidency.

**Mr. President,**

2. The Lao PDR welcomes the progress and achievement of the IAEA and reiterates our full support on the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. We also recognize the crucial role of the IAEA as the central agency guiding member states through its experience, expertise in order to ensure safety, security and safeguards of nuclear application.
3. I appreciate the excellent cooperation and assistance, which the IAEA continues to provide to the Lao PDR throughout the year, particularly capacity building in the area of agriculture, public health, nutrition, sustainable energy development and water resource management. In 2019, more than 100 Lao participants received IAEA trainings and attended related workshops and seminars, while 4 technical cooperation projects are being implemented. Moreover, early this year the IAEA has on time provided assistance to the Lao PDR in fighting COVID-19 pandemic by sending medical supply and equipment.

**Mr. President,**

4. I am pleased to inform that the Government of the Lao PDR has approved the Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP), and the second Country Programme Framework (CPF) for the period of 2020- 2025 has also reached its final approval process. Both of the programs will facilitate and assist the Lao PDR in fulfilling its obligations to support the peaceful use of nuclear for socio-economic development.
5. The Lao PDR is fully committed to continue its effort on implementing international obligations, strengthening international cooperation, and working closely with the IAEA to achieve our common objectives on peaceful use of atomic energy for the prosperity of the world.
6. In conclusion, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Director General, H.E Rafael Mariano Grossi, and the IAEA teams for their tireless effort in advancing the Agency's work.

Thank you