



Lao People's Democratic Republic

Statement by

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**at the High-level Segment Ministerial Level of the
United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP25)**

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Madam President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations and appreciations to the Government of Chile and Spain for their joint efforts to host and preside the conference and the warm welcome and hospitality.

Madam President,

The Lao PDR has been, among other countries, experiencing the impacts of climate change. The majority of its population remains highly vulnerable to climate hazards in particular floods and droughts and 70% of the population depending on natural resources for their livelihoods. Therefore, the impacts of climate change is one of our difficulties against the country's development.

This year, again, the same pattern of natural disasters revisited. Unexpected heavy rainfalls from tropical storms resulted in countrywide floods and landslides causing enormous damage to infrastructures, agricultural productions, and livelihoods.

Madam President,

Realizing the importance of combatting climate change, the Lao Government has taken great focus in the implementation of the Paris Agreement together with a few series of tasks including (1) mainstreaming Nationally Determined Contribution into our development priorities since 2016; (2) newly creation of two new legal tools in 2019 which are Disaster Management Law in June and PM decree on Climate Change in September; (3) building of the National Adaptation Plan Process which is currently in its inception stage; and (4) building of the Climate Change Strategy is under revision.

Moreover, enhanced coordination on the environment and climate finance has become a reality when the Lao PDR was recognized as the 1st country organizing a National GEF-GCF coordination engagement dialogue in February this year.

Madam President,

The Lao PDR has invested in clean energy with 94% of our population having access to electricity. Not only have ability to supply clean energy nationally, but also to our neighboring countries which contribute to the reduction of their emissions through cleaner source. Having abundance in clean energy resources lays a strong foundation to pursuit a low-emission development pathway.

On climate action, we believe that the technical support from key partners is essential to strengthen our resilience and ensure sustainability, inclusiveness and green growth. With the valuable support of our partners, much progress has been made for Lao PDR. For example, this year, Lao DPR has been approved with 5 climate related projects.

Madam President,

Finally, I wish to reaffirm our strong commitment to achieving our common goal and we always stand ready to continue working closely for the success of this Conference and of the Convention.

I thank you for your attention.