

Speech by
Her Excellency Ms. Sysay Leudedmounsone,
Vice-President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR to the 140th IPU
Assembly for the General Debate on
“Parliaments as Platforms to Enhance Education for Peace, Security and
the Rule of Law”

6-10th April 2019, Doha, Qatar

- Your Excellency President of the Inter-parliamentary Union
- Honorable Secretary General of the IPU
- Distinguished Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Delegation of the National Assembly of Lao PDR, I am pleased and honored for the opportunity to speak at the 140th IPU Assembly on the theme: “Parliaments as platforms to enhance education for peace, security and the rule of law”, which is a topic of great significance to our global community.

Madame President,

Education is an essential element in safeguarding peace and the rule of law, because education does not only educate people to be highly knowledgeable and skillful but; education also teaches people to be good citizens who would appreciate the value of peace, understanding, tolerance and forgiveness. Education raises public awareness about law and consciousness on the rule of law; the practice that would enable a peaceful conduct of individual, family, community, society, nation and the world as whole.

In cognizant of great importance of education, Lao PDR regards education as central element in human resource development as projected in the Vision -2030 where all Lao citizen should enjoy equal access to quality education, population would be active in self-development to become quality citizen with discipline and good health, knowledgeable and professional in order to participate in the sustainable development of the country that is well-integrated with the region and the world.

In addition, the government has also adopted Strategic Plan for 2025 and the 8th Development Plan for Education and Sports Sector for 2016-2020, which emphasizes on quality improvement of secondary education to enable learners to continue at tertiary and higher education levels. Emphasis is also placed on the comprehensive quality improvement of teachers, education administration and management; improvement and development of physical education to allow citizens become healthy both physically and mentally in order to contribute to the social economic development of the country.

The Lao National Assembly places great importance on the making and amendment of Laws as well as on budget allocation for education sectors by pushing towards the target of up to 16-17 percent of Annual State Budget to be used for education administration and management; development of education infrastructures; improvement of curricula at all levels and fields. Emphasis is also placed on the implementation of related SDG targets such as attainment basic education and gender equality.

In 2015, the National Assembly adopted the amendment to the Law on Education which re-defined principles, procedures and measures necessary for the management and monitoring of education sector and to ensure the alignment with the National Socio-Economic Development Plan and Human Resource Development Plan.

Madame President,

The State of Lao PDR manages its socio-economic affairs by the Constitution and Laws, the first Constitution promulgated in 1991 required that all state organizations, civil society as well as government officials take active part in raising law awareness among the population.

Lao PDR also adopted a Master Plan on Development of the Rule of Law for year 2009 – 2020 with a strategy towards development of legal system that is uniform, coherent, clear, credible, predictable, just, with high quality and accessible to all. The above will be made possible through a transparent and participatory law making process. To date, the National Assembly of Lao PDR has adopted a total of 139 Laws serving all sectors, according to the law making plan, the current legislature of the National Assembly aims to make and amend 105 Laws. Moreover, as party to a numerous international covenants, Lao PDR is making efforts in translating the content of those into its national legislation.

As members of the Lao National Assembly, besides fulfilling the law-making role, we also take active part in dissemination of laws to the public, at the same time; oversee closely the implementation of the Constitution and Laws by the Executive and the Judiciary.

Through implementation of education policies and the development of the rule of law as mentioned above, Lao PDR enjoys the climate of political stability, peaceful society and harmony among its multi-ethnic people. Moreover, national economy is growing steadily and living standards of people are gradually improved.

Taking this occasion, I would like to call upon fellow parliamentarians to place importance on enhancing education for peace, security and the rule of law. We shall honor the principle of peaceful conflict resolution with greater respect of the rule of law. All that will enable global peace, prosperity, sharing and caring societies that will leave no one behind.

I wish the 140th IPU Assembly a great success.

Thank you.