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**Statement**  
**by H.E Mr. Thongphane SAVANPHET**  
**Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR**  
**At the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of UPR Working Group**  
**Geneva, 27 October – 7 November 2014**

**Review of Angola: 31 October 2014, at 14:30 - 18:00 hours**

Mr. President,

The Lao delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Angola to the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group and would like to thank for a comprehensive National Report for the Second Cycle of the UPR.

My delegation notes with appreciation Angola's strong commitment towards the promotion and protection of human rights in the country by, among others, ratifying the Convention on the Right of Person with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and its Optional Protocol, and in the process of ratification of several other conventions.

The Lao PDR welcomes efforts made by the Government of Angola to enhance freedom of expression, improve national education system, access to health care services, combat human trafficking, eliminate all form of violence against women and children and to promote gender equality in leadership roles by increasing participation of women in decision-making positions at all levels.

In this connection, my delegation wishes to recommend Angola to continue its cooperation with the UN, other International Organizations and human rights mechanisms to overcome remaining constraints and challenges.

We wish Angola a very success in its Second Cycle of UPR.

I thank you, Mr. President