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Statement by Mr. Bovonethat Douangchak
Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Lao PDR
At the 23rd Session of UPR Working Group
Geneva, 2 – 13 November 2015

Review of Myanmar: 6 November, at 9:00 – 12:00 hrs

Mr. President,

Lao PDR warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar led by H.E. Dr. Tun Shin, Union Attorney-General to the 23rd Session of UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of a comprehensive national report outlining important steps undertaken by the Government of Myanmar for the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

My delegation commends the Government of Myanmar on their commitment to promote good governance, to undertake steps towards democratic state, to implement the sustainable development goals recently adopted and to achieve the graduation from the Least Developed Countries status, despite the country is facing challenges.

We welcome the significant progress made by the Government of Myanmar in promoting freedom of expression and assembly, improving educational program, health care services, empowerment women and protecting right of person with disabilities as well as addressing human trafficking.

With regard to further developments in the promotion and protection of human rights in Myanmar, we would offer the following recommendations:

1. Continue to accelerate the momentum of the political, socio-economic and administrative reform to further fulfill socio-economic needs of the people;
2. Continue with the efforts of provision equal access to education by all national races in the country;
3. Encourage to continue allocate more budget in health sectors.

Finally, as a fellow member of ASEAN, we wish Myanmar a great success in its future endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. President.