

**Statement by Mr. Sitsangkhom Sisaketh, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR**

**At the 38th Session of UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 3-14 May 2021**

Review of Singapore: 12 May 2021

Madam President,

Lao delegation warmly welcomes the high level delegation of Singapore to the UPR session and thanks for its comprehensive report.

Laos commends Singapore for the remarkable progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights as well as in building its inclusive and resilient society. These include, among others, enhancing gender equality; advancing well-being, health and safety of migrant workers; promoting social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities; combating trafficking in persons; and protecting low-income and vulnerable residents during the pandemic, through the implementation of the adopted recommendations in the 2nd cycle and its various national measures and policies.

As a close neighbor and fellow ASEAN member, Laos wishes to offer following recommendations:

1. Enhance affordable access to quality education and healthcare services for all during the pandemic, including access to COVID-19 vaccines for migrant workers; and
2. Continue to integrate persons with disabilities into society under the Enabling Masterplan to ensure that they could access to education, job training and employment.

We wish Singapore a great success in its review.

I thank you, Madam President.