

**Statement by the Representative of the Lao PDR**

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

**Geneva, 3-14 May 2021**

Review of Belgium: 5 May 2021

Madam President,

Laos warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Belgium to the UPR session.

Laos would like to commend Belgium for the achievements made in its efforts in promoting gender equality and rights of persons with disabilities; combating poverty, including child poverty and impoverishment; addressing all forms of violence against children; and combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

In this regard, Laos wishes to offer the following recommendations:

1. Continue its efforts in promoting gender equality by tackling woman's underrepresentation in management and strategic position as well as promoting rights of the child and rights of persons with disabilities; and
2. Continue implementing its measures and national plans to combat poverty, particularly the impoverishment resulting from the outbreak of the pandemic of COVID-19, and continue to build a tolerant society and combat police violence.

We wish Belgium a very successful UPR.

I thank you, Madam President.