

**Statement by H.E. Latsamy Keomany, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR**

**At the 40th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 24 January – 4 February 2022**

Review of Syria: 24 January 2022 (14:30-18:00)

Madame President,

The Lao PDR warmly welcomes Syria’s Delegation to the UPR session and thanks them for the comprehensive report.

My delegation welcomes the progress made by Syria in the implementation of the recommendations adopted during the second UPR Cycle, including the strengthening of the state institutional framework to protect human rights; and promotion of fundamental rights of citizens, rights of women, right to education and rights of the child.

In this connection, the Lao PDR wishes to offer the following recommendations:

1. Consider expanding the base of beneficiaries of social safety nets and social security systems to ensure the promotion and protection of fundamental rights of citizens; and
2. Expand further the ongoing efforts to strengthen related legal framework such as laws and decrees to facilitate the return of Syrian internally displaced persons and refugees.

To conclude, we wish Syria a great success in this UPR.

I thank you.