



***Remarks by Mr Leik Boonwaat,
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***At the UNDAF In-Country Road Map Workshop
14 May 2010 at Lao Plaza Hotel, Vientiane***

H.E. Dr Bounthavy Sisouphanthong, Vice Minister, Ministry of Planning and Investment

Excellencies,

Distinguished Colleagues ,

Please allow me to warmly welcome you to this In-Country Road Map Workshop that is a starting point for the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the years 2011 to 2015.

The UNDAF is a collective, collective and integrated UN response to the national development priorities as outlined in the Government's National Socio-Economic Development Plan.

We just came from an important meeting with the Government and Development Partners on the 7th NSEDP and reaffirmed the importance of partnership in development.

In many ways, UN Reform is about being a good partner in development by being more coherent and simplifying where we can. The UN family in Lao PDR is committed to the UN Reform to speak with one voice and deliver as One UN.

In this context, we will continue to offer our comparative advantage in neutrality, global experience in human development and poverty reduction as well as the

areas indicated by the Millennium Declaration in supporting the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The UNDAF, which is a 5-year umbrella development strategy for the UN is one concrete component of the UN Reform. It attempts to outline key development outcomes of the UN interventions, per the national development priorities, that can be carried out in a coherent and more harmonized manner so that the UN efforts can be maximized.

The UN family will develop the UNDAF with a view to supporting poverty reduction through equitable growth, based on human development. This means, promoting an enabling environment where everyone can enjoy their basic needs and rights in urban and rural areas. It is important to put emphasis on reaching the unreached, the vulnerable people including women, children, young people, physically and mentally challenged. We also acknowledge the importance of supporting sustainable environment.

All of this requires solid Results Based Management supported by a good M&E framework and data that outline clear accountability line for results.

All of these are aspects of the 5 Key Principles of an UNDAF, acting as its core foundation. In fact, I believe these 5 Key Principles resonate well with the issues raised earlier today on the 7th NSEDP.

Furthermore, there are other cross-cutting thematic issues that merit consideration when developing this UNDAF such as disaster management, climate change, HIV/AIDS, nutrition and food security, trade and productive capacity as well as employment and decent work.

But the purpose of today's workshop as outlined in the agenda, is to consult on the process of **how** we will together develop the UNDAF. We focus on the process today so that we can start developing the UNDAF and focus on the substance in the coming days.



Upon introducing shortly the UNDAF and its process, we aim to establish a kind of Road Map that outlines such process through a group exercise. Again, I would like to emphasize on the consultative nature of UNDAF, so that in the end, it can be nationally led, owned and managed.

With this, I would like to thank you for your kind attention and wish you a pleasant workshop.