Intervention on "ministerial segment on chemicals and waste issues to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions"

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- Mr. Chairman
- Excellencies, Ministers, Vice Ministers
- Distinguished Delegates
- Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Lao delegates, may I express our deep and sincere appreciation for the honour to deliver the statement at the convention of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm on chemicals and waste issues. The government of Lao PDR clearly recognizes chemicals and waste management as key indicators on issues on sustainable development and social equity. We believe that chemicals and waste issues are the collateral result from the industrialization and they could have the implication to the environment and to the people's health. Therefore, the Lao PDR has put the chemical and waste management as the high priority. However, there are the general waste management and environment legislation and policies in place, their enforcement are more difficult to be implemented.

I believe that the chemicals and wastes issues are cross-cutting issues which are interlinking with the economic, social and environmental aspects in order to ensure the people's health. It is important to strengthen technical cooperation of chemical and waste management at the national, regional and international level especially on the exchange of the lesson learn and the capacity building on human resources.

Waste management has recently been developed in Lao PDR and there is no appropriate legal framework yet. The National Assembly approved the law on hygiene and health protection in 2001, which defines the main responsibilities for waste management and its framework.

I would like to congratulate to the organizers for hosting this important event for sharing the country experiences on the chemical and waste management.

Last but not least, I wish the meeting for its success.

Thank you.