

Thank you Mr Chariman

Your excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

The Lao PDR congratulates ESCAP members States and joins its efforts in putting forward the draft ministerial declaration to “Get everyone in the picture” and in particular, the draft regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific. We joined our Asian neighbors in underlining the need to improve civil registration in the region and fully support ESCAP member States efforts on setting a clear commitment based on the shared vision that, by 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific “benefit from universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development.”

As part of this commitment and common effort to move the CRVS agenda forward in practice, the Government of Lao PDR is currently working in developing a Strategic Plan to strengthen CRVS in our country, which we are glad to inform our fellow colleagues, shares the goals and targets of the regional action framework we are discussing during this session.

In particular, we think that it is very important that this regional framework includes measurable outcomes and specific indicators which allow Governments and development partners to accurately monitor civil registration coverage for all population groups. In this regard, we join our fellow ESCAP members and associate members in this effort to report progress on a continuous basis during the 2015-2014 decade, and through the Strategic Plan we are currently working on, aim at also provide data that can be disaggregated by age, sex and geographic area to make sure that we also “get everyone in the picture” in Lao PDR.

Lastly, the Government of Lao PDR has been proud to serve as a member of the Regional Steering Group up until point, and fully support the draft revised terms of reference.

Thank you.