

## Statement by

Mr. Vanhna DOUANGPHACHANH,  
Vice-President of Lao Federation of Trade Unions (LFTU),  
at the 108<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference.  
Geneva, 18 June 2019

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Excellences,

- Chairman of the 108<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference,
- Mr Guy Ryder, Director General of the International Labour Organization,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor to deliver the statement on behalf of Lao Trade Union members, workers, laboring people and LFTU' leadership at the 108<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference, which is an important conference, especially this year ILO celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

I would like to express my congratulations to the report of the Director General Guy Ryder of the ILO on the “**Future of Work**”.

### **Distinguished delegates,**

Since the Lao Federation of Trade Unions was established on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1956, it becomes a representative of Lao laboring people and one of tripartite organizations in the Lao PDR. It has been working closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfares as a representative of the government of Lao PDR and the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a representative of the employers in Lao PDR in the efforts of the effective implementation of the ILO conventions that the Lao PDR already ratified. The Lao Federation of Trade Unions has revised the trade union law and regulations to ensure alignment with the ratified conventions of ILO and Lao Labour Law in contribution to the social protection and promotion of decent work in the Lao PDR.

Lao Federation of Trade Unions has paid important attention to exercise its mandates; In Particular, we have disseminated and raised awareness of laws and regulations related to labour issues and labour protection, provided mobile awareness raising to workers and employers on safety and health, encouraged them to have collective bargaining agreement, expanded union organization at the workplaces of private enterprises, protected informal workers and migrant workers, participated into national skills development and employment promotion.

In addition, the Lao Federal Trade Union has organized the short training courses to promote the capacity building of trade union officers from the central down to the local levels, educated workers to understand laws and discipline at work, involved in monitoring the state management and socio-economic management in labour units in order to ensure all workers receiving equal pay for the same job and better living conditions, and to promote the decent work and a brighter future for all.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Last but not least, on behalf of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions, I would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the ILO for their continuous support to the Lao Federation of Trade Unions both financial and technical assistance since the Lao PDR was an ILO member in 1964 until now, particularly under the Decent Work Country Program 2017-2021 to ensure the protection of the interests and justice for all.

I wish the 108<sup>th</sup> ILC proceeds productively and successfully!

Thank you!