

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Statement by

H.E. Thongphane Savanphet

Deputy Foreign Minister,

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations

at the General Debate on "The Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution"

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(Check Against Delivery)

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

The Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Co-Chairs for convening this important debate on the peaceful settlement of the Question of Palestine and the implementation of the two-state solution.

The Lao PDR has been following with deep concern the situation in the Middle East, the prolonged conflict and the continuing suffering endured by the Palestinian people. We wish to reiterate that a comprehensive, just, and lasting solution to the Question of Palestine must be achieved through peaceful means, in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions.

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

As a peace-loving nation that firmly upholds the Charter of the United Nations, the Lao PDR has consistently advocated for the peaceful settlement of disputes and the peaceful co-existence of all nations. We strongly believe that the only viable path toward achieving lasting peace, security, and stability in the Middle East is through the establishment of two sovereign states living side by side in peace and security, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and international law. In this regard, we call for the full respect for the inalienable and legitimate the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the establishment of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine, and for creating conditions that would enable the State of Palestine to become a full Member of the United Nations.

The Lao PDR also underscores the urgent need for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance, and the protection of civilians in accordance with international humanitarian law. In this regard, we welcome the adoption of the recent General Assembly resolution on the protection of civilians and the upholding of legal and humanitarian obligations, which calls for an immediate end to the blockade of Gaza, the opening of all border crossings, and the unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid to the Palestinian civilian population. The international community must intensify its efforts to create conducive conditions for the resumption of direct negotiations between the two parties, based on mutual respect and mutual recognition.

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

In closing, the Lao PDR reiterates its unwavering commitment to supporting all efforts aimed at the peaceful resolution of the question of Palestine. We call upon all parties concerned to exercise maximum restraint, respect international law, and work sincerely toward the shared goal of lasting peace and stability in the region.

I thank you.