

## Summary Opening Remark

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Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR

On behalf the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry attended a seminar on Plant Variety Protection under UPOV convention held in Vientiane Capital today. I express warm welcome to all the delegates from Lao PDR and delegates from foreign country attend meetings.

As the note that the Government of Lao PDR has priority on agriculture and forestry, taking into sectors such as basic main economy of covering 27% of GDP across the country and in the management, development and use of crop varieties in Laos is one task the government has given priority remarkable to try to improve laws and regulations to instrument the use of plant varieties in Laos as: IP Law 2011 and Regulation on Plant Variety Management 2012 and regulations related some which are all documented basis for management and development of plant varieties in Laos. However, plant variety protection in Lao PDR is the new, has initiated a challenge to expand into established system, it is necessary to have lessons and learn from advance countries in regional and international organizations with experience into implemented.

The purpose of the meeting today is to raise awareness and understanding about the management and protection of plant varieties based on rules of international and regulation of plant varieties in Laos. The seminar was expected to get the cooperation and support from regional and international development system to manage and protect plant varieties with effective country further through sharing experiences from countries that are members of (UPOV).

The meeting was an opportunity as well as representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam, UPOV of Switzerland, EU and Member of International of Plant Variety Protection honor attending meetings and sharing lessons about management, protection of plant varieties of countries participating, knowledge about the protection of plant varieties of EU and Vietnam.

The meeting is considered as meeting the technical means important because it will be collapsed lessons of countries both regional and international, we will also listen to the vent, discuss and learn about the management, development and protection of plant varieties of Lao PDR from the Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Science and Technology and the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Which we will simultaneously study the lessons and contribute to research and develop systems to protect new plant varieties, management systems and varieties in Laos further in accordance with the rules of international trade.

Although many topic but meetings are run only once day. So we are proposed guests to attended this meeting must be put each track in each activity on the management, development and protection of plant varieties from lectures, presentations of experts involved in both domestic and foreign, to a reference to research comment on the development system to protect new plant varieties, management and use of plant varieties of Lao PDR to be developed gradually to enable integration mechanism.

Finally, I wish the chairman, all the delegates attending the meeting, greeting meeting with success elegance. In the glory and the importance of this, I am representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry declares seminar on plant variety protection under UPOV Convention was officially since this time onwards.

**Thank you**