

Summarize of the LaoNCAW's Activities for the year 2008-2009

Volume 1, January 2010

High level delegation of the Lao PDR led by HE. Somsavat LENGSAVAD Standing Deputy Prime Minister, President of LaoNCAW attended the 44th Review Session of the CEDAW Committee in New York, USA

1. Role, Function and Structure of LaoNCAW Page 2-4

2. National Strategy for the Advancement of Women Page 6-7

3. The activities of LaoNCAW in 2008-2009

- Preparation process of the combined 6th & 7th CEDAW report of Lao PDR Page 8
- Follow up activities to the 44th Review session of CEDAW Committee Page 9
- Joint Statement of the 1st ASEAN High Level Meeting Page 10-11
- Gender Exhibition to commemorate the 5th Anniversary of the Establishment of Lao NCAW Page 12-13
- Participatory Evaluation Page 14-17
- Coordination between Lao NCAW and Sectors, International Organization & Development Partners Page 18-19



UN Headquarters Office, New York, 24 July 2009

With the financial support from the Lao Government and its development partners (UNDP, UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNICEF), the Delegation of the Lao PDR led by HE. Somsavat LENGSAVAD Standing Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women attended the 44th Review Session of the CEDAW Committee to review the combined 6th and 7th CEDAW Periodic Report of Lao PDR from 20-27 July in New York, 2009.

(continue page 5)

Role, Function and Structure of LaoNCAW

Role and Function of LaoNCAW

LaoNCAW is the Government-Sectoral Focal Point on Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Equality. The Commission assists the Government in formulating policy guidance and strategic plans of action to promote women's advancement and gender equality in all fields.

LaoNCAW coordinates with local authorities and international organizations to mobilize financial support and technical assistance for the promotion of Gender Rights, and elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against women.

Lao PDR has signed a number of important International conventions and treaties, including:

- Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA)
- International Conference on Population & Development (ICPD)
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- World Women Summit Outcomes of 2005

The Commission also assists the Government of Lao PDR in monitoring and implementing these international treaties and conventions.

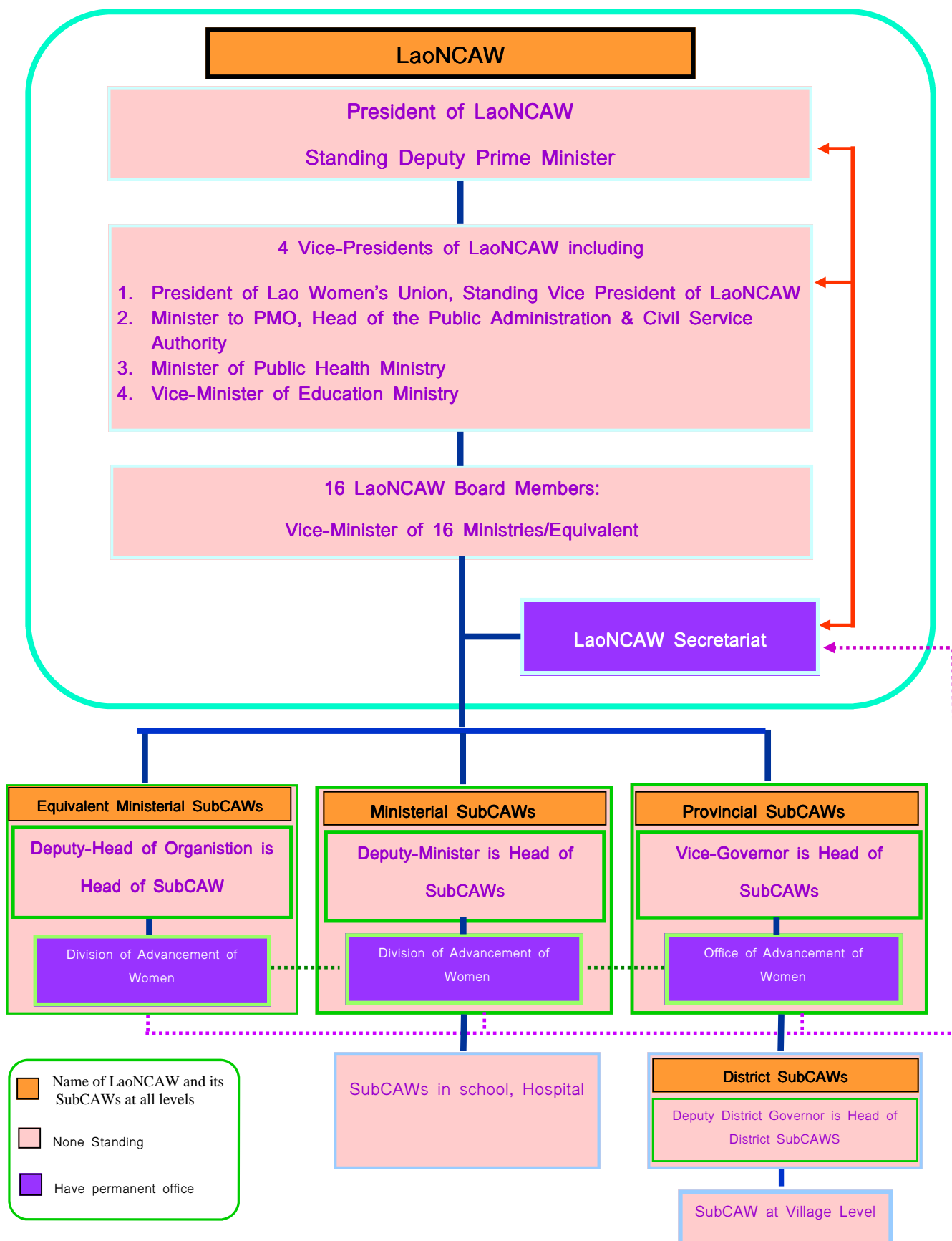
Structure of LaoNCAW

LaoNCAW consists of men and women working towards Gender mainstreaming in their respective sectors and institutions.

At the National level, members are nominated by Prime Minister, at the Sub-National level, members are nominated by sectoral or provincial authorities. The secretariat of LaoNCAW resides under the Office of Prime Minister, and reports directly to the President of LaoNCAW.

Role, Function and Structure of LaoNCAW

Structure of LaoNCAW



Role, Function and Structure of LaoNCAW

Role and Function of LaoNCAW-Secretariat

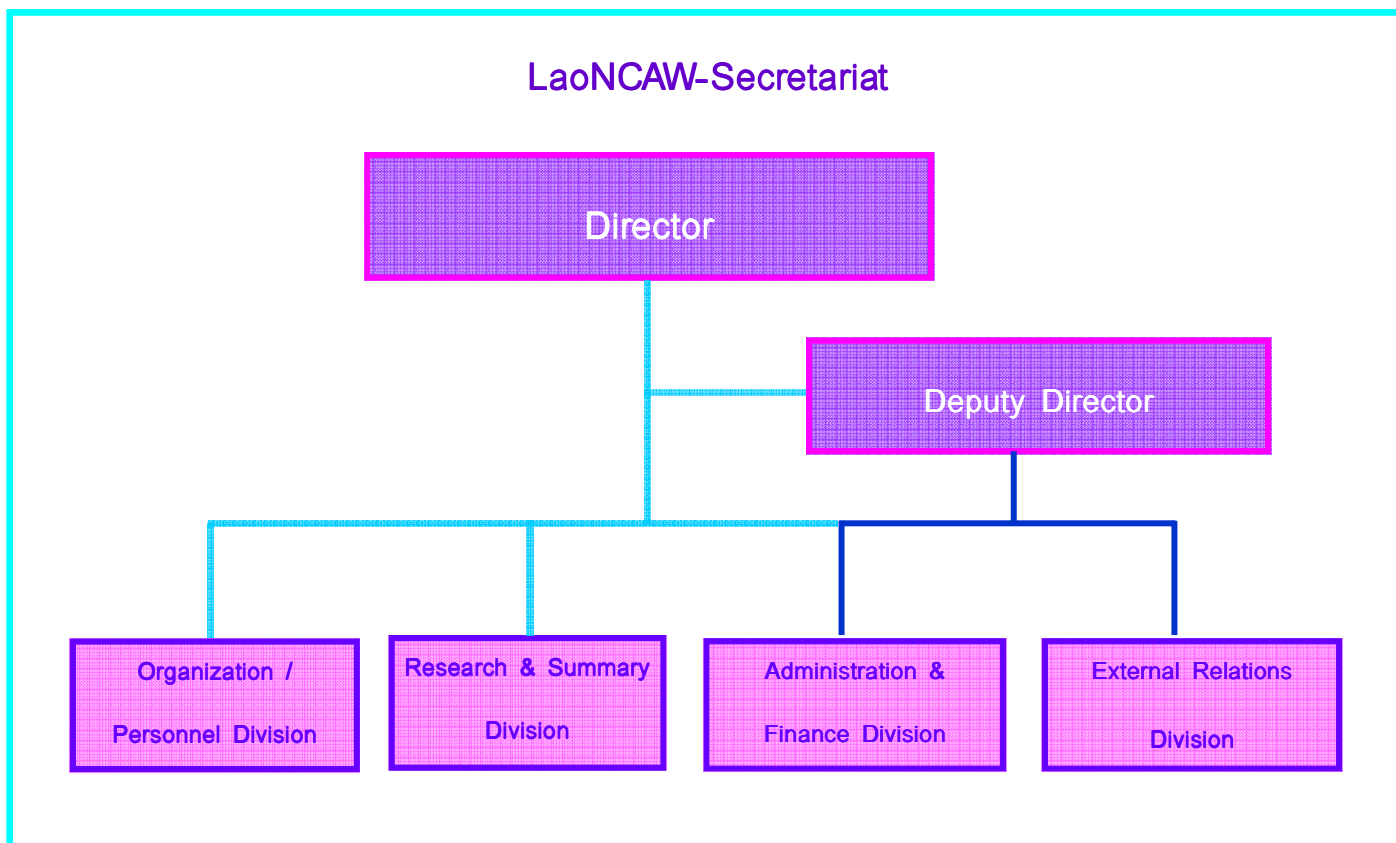
The Secretariat of LaoNCAW is responsible for coordinating and providing operational support to LaoNCAW and SubCAWs including:

- Coordinate capacity building of LaoNCAW
- Assist in information sharing between LaoNCAW
- Support formulation of International Progress reports related to Gender Equality and Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- Support for drafting of strategic and operation plans for LaoNCAW
- Support for organizing biannual LaoNCAW Board Meetings to monitor and review performance of Lao NCAW

The Secretariat of LaoNCAW operates under the direct guidance from standing Deputy Prime Minister, President of LaoNCAW.

The budget of LaoNCAW-Secretariat is managed by Budgetary Unit (II) located within the Prime Minister's Office, together with a bank account opened in order to receive international financial support.

Structure of LaoNCAW-Secretariat



Outcomes of the 44th Review Session of the CEDAW Committee can be summarized as follows:

• **Positive Points:**

The CEDAW Committee expresses its high appreciation for the CEDAW implementation in Lao PDR such as:

- Lao PDR has outlined relevant policies, strategies and mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of CEDAW systematically.
- The Government adopted the National Strategy for the Advancement of Women for the period 2006-2010, which aims to remove obstacle that prevent women from advancing their interests and ensure their equal rights and development with their male counterparts in all aspects.
- Lao PDR has submitted its periodic report including the answers to the 29 questionnaires of the CEDAW Committee on time, which is a key step in the CEDAW implementation.
- The CEDAW Committee commends the Lao PDR for its high-level delegation to attend the 44th Session of the CEDAW Committee, indicating the special attention of the Government in fulfilling its Commitments.
- LaoNCAW has coordinated with all concerned parties, International Organizations/UN network and others Development Partners to secure technical and financial support for the preparation and reviewing process of its periodic report.
- The Capacity of LaoNCAW as well as the Secretariat on the CEDAW implementation , report and follow up has been improved to the new level.
- Currently, the situation of Lao women has been improved. Although the Government has limited budget, but with its sound policies, and efficient coordination with relevant agencies, the number of women in decision making levels has increased noticeably.



• **Lessons Learned:**

- The information provided in the combined 6th & 7th report of the Lao PDR in many aspects was too general and lacked the necessary disaggregated data.
- Some recommendations in the previous Concluding Comments of the previous combined 1st to 5th periodic CEDAW report of Lao PDR were not applied and implemented yet.
- The dissemination of Concluding Comments remained limited.

Following the 44th Review Session of the CEDAW Committee. On August 7, 2009, the CEDAW Committee has released its Concluding Observations for the Combined 6th and 7th CEDAW Report of Lao PDR, which comprise 60 recommendations. On recommendation No: 58, the CEDAW Committee requests Lao PDR to provide within 2 years, written information on the steps undertaken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraph 24 (Violence Against Women), and 43 (Migrant Women Workers) to the Committee. Under Article 18 of the Convention, the CEDAW Committee requests Lao PDR to Submit its 8th periodic report, which is due in September 2010, and its 9th periodic report , which is due in September 2014, in a combined Report in 2014

National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (NSAW 2006-2010)

Lao PDR is highly committed to the promotion of gender equality and has outlined relevant country goals and priorities in the National Social-Economic Development Plan (NSED 2006-2010). The strategy is aimed at reducing poverty, relying on the important role played by the Lao women in the society. The effective participation of women, especially poor and ethnic women, is thus essential for the country to both reduce poverty and improve living standards.

The National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (NSAW) was drafted by LaoNCAW based on various National Policies of Lao PDR as well as its commitment to the CEDAW convention, BPF, MDGs, ICPD and others relevant human rights treaties that Lao PDR is a state party.

NSAW aims to remove those obstacles that hinder the advancement of women. NSAW comprised 4 parts as follows:

Part I: Introductory part on Background and the situation of Lao women in Lao PDR.

Part II: Vision and Principles. The principles include Gender Mainstreaming Approach, Rights based Approach and Temporary Special Measures.

Part III: Action Plans, Targets and Implementing Approaches. The details of the expected targets of 5 Action Plans of the NSAW are:

Action Plan 1: Enhance Women's active participation in the implementation of the National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES) for the entire population and for their own interests.

Target 1: The number of women receiving training related to technique on agriculture and animal breeding to be increased 10% a year.

Target 2: To have the policy on land allocation for agriculture and animal breeding and to create other income generating activities for the poor families.

Target 3: To increase number of households access to loan provided by poverty Reduction Fund, village development fund and low-interest credit provided by banks.

Target 4: To expand village development fund through women's participation

Target 5: To create job opportunity for women increasing 15 percent per annum.

Action Plan II: Promote women and girls access to upgrading and education on equal footing with their male counterparts.

Target 1: To expand girls school attendance at all levels with gradual equality with male (according to targets of strategy laid down by the (MOE):88.4 percent at primary school, 61.7 percent at lower secondary school, 40.2 percent at upper secondary school and 43 percent at university by the year 2010.

Target 2: To eradicate women's illiteracy, for the age group 15-40 years, by achieving 82 percent by 2010.

Target 3: To create favorable conditions for female labors for them to get increased access to training and production technique annually.

Target 4: To create enabling conditions for an increased number of female staffs to enhance the degree of policy-administration theory annually.

Target 5: To create sound conditions for women to get more access to professional training in various areas such as development planning, finance, banking, business administration, laws, sciences and technology, foreign languages, and others annually.

Action Plan III: Improve healthcare services for women

Target 1: Reduce the maternal mortality rate to 300/100.000 live births; under one years old child mortality rate to 40/1.000 live births; infant under five year old mortality rate to 65/100.000 live births; increase the percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel to 35 percent.

Target 2: Increase the child immunization rate to 85 percent.

Target 3: Strive to achieve 71 years old of women's life expectancy.

Target 4: Increase women's access to health care services to 80 percent.

Target 5: Expand reproductive health programmers, HIV/AIDS/STIs Prevention Programmers and others to cover 47 poorest districts.

Action Plan IV: Increase the number of women in decision-making position at all levels.

Target 1: To strive for increasing the number of women in the Party Committee in each level to 10 percent.

Target 2: To strive for reaching 25 percent of women parliamentarians in the Seventh Legislature.

Target 3: To strive for state agencies and mass organization at different levels, from central to local levels, not less than 20 percent of women leaders.

Target 4: In educational, health, and socio-cultural sectors and enterprises having above 40 percent of women out of the total of workforce, shall have women presence in the leadership.

Action Plan V: Strengthen national machineries that protect and promote the advancement of women.

Target 1: Develop the capacity of LaoNCAW and its Secretariat Office in studying policies, strategies, coordination, overseeing and evaluation.

Target 2: Increase gender awareness of LaoNCAW and Sub-CAW in various sectors and local administrations to reach 50 percent at least.

Target 3: Increase coordination between LaoNCAW, Sub-CAW and Women's Union at different levels.

Part IV: Implementing Approach. This part has defined the responsibility of each sector on the implementation of NSAW, Budget for implementing and monitoring process.

The fiscal year 2009-2010 is the final year for the implementation of NSAW (2006-2010). Therefore, LaoNCAW has to evaluate its outcomes of the current NSAW and further review and develop the new NSAW for the period of 2011-2015 in conformity with the 7th National Social-Economic Development Plan (NSED) 2011-2015.

Preparation Process of the combined 6th and 7th CEDAW Report of Lao PDR

Answering to 29 Questionnaires of the CEDAW Committee



After Lao PDR submitted its combined 6th and 7th Periodic CEDAW Report to the CEDAW Committee. The committee then considered the Lao CEDAW report and followed by releasing a list of issues and questionnaires to Lao PDR.

LaoNCAW then has nominated the drafting committee responsible for the preparation of the answering to CEDAW questionnaires in a written form (Bridging Report).

The drafting committee of the Bridging Report collected data from respected sectors and organized a serial consultative Meeting to discuss and finalize the Bridging Report. The Bridging Report were then adopted by LaoNCAW and further submitted to the CEDAW Committee in June 2009

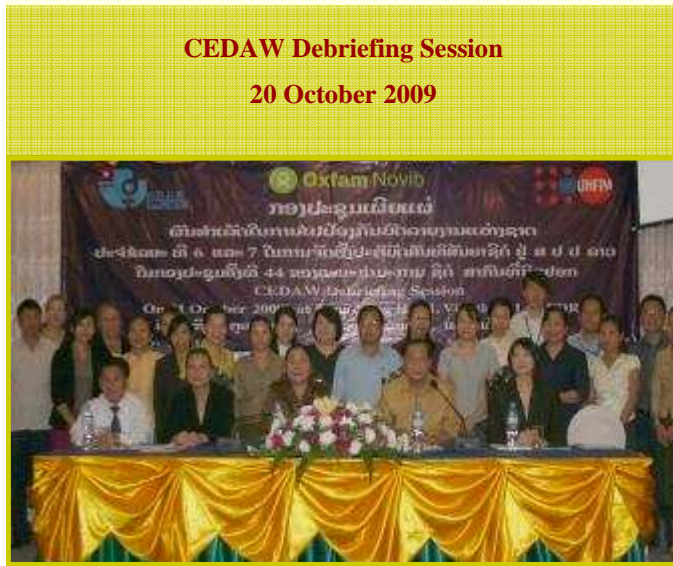
CEDAW Mock Session Workshop



CEDAW Mock Session was organized from 19-20 March 2009, in Vientiane Capital. The Objectives of the workshop is to assist the Lao Delegates who will attend the 44th Review Session, in order to increase their understanding on the criteria of the Convention and Government Obligations, which are the basis for carry out the review of the report; to increase understanding on the steps and roles of each delegate in the review session, also to assist the Lao Delegates to be informed on the characteristics and forms of questions to be raised by the CEDAW Committee. The workshop has given experiences and lesson learned to delegates on how to answer clearly to the Committee.

Follow up events organized by LaoNCAW after attending the 44th Review Session of the CEDAW Committee

The 1st CEDAW Debriefing Session was organized with the aim to disseminate some achievements gained by Lao delegates in attending the 44th Review Session to review a combined 6th and 7th Periodic report of Lao PDR, also to disseminate the current Concluding Observations of the CEDAW Committee. The Session further discussed some future guidance for the CEDAW follow up action plan and its current Concluding Observations through discussion, some recommendations from participants can be summarized as follows: currently, Lao PDR in general, in particular Ministry of Planning and Investment are in the preparation process of the 7th National Social Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) and progress report in the Vientiane Declaration Country



Action Plan (VDCAP) implementation, thus, it was suggested that LaoNCAW should be participated in this process to integrate the information states in the Concluding Observations into the 7th NSEDP and being one part of VDCAP.

In this session, Ms Sysay Leudedmounsone, Standing

Vice-President of LaoNCAW has commended on some guidance for future implementation of the Concluding Observations. She requested the SubCAWs in various sectors to deeply study the Recommendations of the Concluding Observations make efforts to implement those recommendations that related to its owned sectors in conformity with the National Strategy for the Advancement of Women of Women (2006-2010), empowering the SubCAWs in its level to be capable to disseminate and apply the Concluding Observation into a concrete action plan and practices effectively.



ກອງປະຊຸມສຳມະນາພາຍໃຕ້ຫົວຂໍ້ “ເພີ່ມທະວີການມີສ່ວນຮ່ວມຂອງຜູ້ຊາຍ ເພື່ອຕ້ານການໃຊ້ຄວາມຮຸນແຮງຕໍ່ແມ່ຍິງ
Seminar on: To End Violence Against Women by Increasing Male Participation
ຕັ້ງວັນທີ 23 ພະຈິກ 2009, ທີ່ ນະຄອນຫຼວງວຽງຈັນ

To Commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of VAW, 25 November; and to also support the UN Secretary Regional Campaign on “UNITE to end Violence Against Women”.

LaoNCAW in collaboration with LWU organized a seminar on: Increasing Male participations to end VAW on November 23, 2009, in Vientiane Capital, the seminar was attended by participants from LaoNCAW, SubCAWs, National Assembly, Mass organizations, International Organizations, UN Agencies

and NGOs. In this seminar, many participants had taken their turns to give their views and opinions for instance: Prof. Ket kietisack; Prof.Dr. Phonethep Pholsena; Mr. Khamla lolonsy; Dr Sayamang Vongsack; Dr. Ms. Souvanpheng Bouphanouvong, Mr.Bounthong Bouahom, Dr.Ms. Kaisone Chounramany; Ms.Lek Sengkhamvongsa and some foreign participants such as: Ms. Mieko Yabuta and Ms. Victoria Juat; in which their comments can be summarized as follows: All stakeholders as well as Government have made

efforts and paid more attention to prevent the violence towards women, in which can be seen by the use of some measures including: the amendments of Lao PDR Constitution, Laws/ Regulations and Policies that reflect the guarantee of Rights and Benefits of Women of all ethnic groups. Furthermore, the process of raising awareness on Gender, and VAW should be carry on more widely with many approaches including through various forms of media. With regard to the Women Caucus of the National Assembly, in the past, it had coordinated with LWU & LaoNCAW to jointly organize meeting to monitor the implementation of Laws that related to women issues. And the Violence issue needs to have legislation to guarantee the legitimate rights and benefits of women. Thus these 3 mechanism (Women Caucus of NA, LWU & LaoNCAW) have to study and work out some measures for practical implementation on these issues. The participants also suggested for organizing continuously this type of seminar in the future.

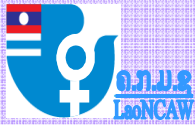
First ASEAN High Level Meeting on Good Practices in
CEDAW Report and Follow up
14-15 January 2009, Vientiane, Lao PDR



The meeting was organized by LaoNCAW on behalf of the government of Lao PDR. And the meeting was a collaboration between LaoNCAW, LWU, MoFA and others concerned parties with the financial support by UNIFEM. There were delegates from 10 ASEAN countries and Timor Leste as an observer country. Also there were a representative from ASEAN Secretariat, UNIFEM Regional office, and some Internal and External distinguish guests.

The meeting purposes are: to promote the ASEAN relation and cooperation, also to share among ASEAN members countries information and strategic lesson learned on the Preparation and Follow up of the CEDAW implementation process as well as the Concluding Comments of the CEDAW Committee, and also to exchange views for the future on how ASEAN women will have their Role, Involvement and Contribution to all ASEAN pillars as well as the concerned issues by ASEAN community.

The meeting has completed successfully, in which all delegates adopted a Joint Statement for continuing the future cooperation and partnership with all stakeholders on the implementation of CEDAW convention.



**THE 1st ASEAN HIGH-LEVEL MEETING
ON GOOD PRACTICES IN CEDAW
REPORTING and FOLLOW-UP
VIENTIANE, LAO PDR, 14-15 JANUARY 2008
Joint Statement**



1. We, the delegates of ten ASEAN Member Countries, **namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam**, gathered at the ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Good Practices in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Reporting and Follow-up on 14-15 January 2008 in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic.
2. We reaffirmed the importance of the CEDAW as a guiding framework of the 1988 Declaration on the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region, the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action (BPFA), the outcome of the Twenty Third Special Session of the UN General Assembly in 2000, the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted in 2000, the 2004 Bangkok Communiqué adopted at the UNESCAP Regional Review of the BPFA and the 2004 ASEAN Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women in ASEAN. The implementation of these important documents has contributed to the implementation of the ASEAN vision 2020 and the purposes and principles of the ASEAN charter.
3. We recognized the steady progress achieved in ASEAN Member Countries in the enhancement of the role and contributions of ASEAN women and in mainstreaming gender into policies, plans, programmes and budgets. In this regard, we reiterate the Joint Statement and Commitment to Implement Gender Mainstreaming within the Context of CEDAW, BPFA and MDGs adopted at the ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming held on 15-16 November 2006 in Jakarta, Indonesia, and reaffirmed the importance of the CEDAW as one of the international instruments for gender mainstreaming together with the BPFA and MDGs.
4. We reiterated our commitment to fulfilling the obligation of the Stated Parties to the CEDAW in implementing the Convention, submitting periodic reports to the CEDAW Committee and following up on the Concluding Comments.
5. We agreed to continue sharing experiences and good practices in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the CEDAW.
6. We agreed to further enhance the CEDAW implementation, monitoring and reporting through the following:
 - a) Follow the reporting guidelines of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
 - b) Assign a State agency to undertake a lead in coordinating the process of the CEDAW implementation and preparing periodic reports to the Committee,
 - c) Promote a collective whole-government approach in drafting the CEDAW periodic reports through the establishment of inter-agency working groups
 - d) Strengthen the existing national CEDAW reporting and monitoring mechanisms to ensure the effectiveness among the relevant government agencies,
 - e) Establish a monitoring database and ensure easily available and accessible sex-disaggregated data and information;
 - f) Integrate issues raised in the CEDAW Concluding Comments into national and sectoral development plans as and when relevant.
7. We recognized that capacity-building is an important in the efforts to fulfill the obligation under CEDAW. We agreed to continue to undertake national efforts as well as further deepen and broaden ASEAN cooperation by continuing to exchange views and experiences towards sustainable capacity development for the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the CEDAW.
8. We agreed to continue enhancing cooperation and partnerships with all stakeholders, UN agencies and other relevant non-government partners of ASEAN in the effort to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. In this regard, we would appreciate technical support with respect to developing strategies for implementing the CEDAW and reporting obligation.
9. We notes with satisfaction that all ASEAN Member Countries had ratified the CEDAW. Therefore, we encouraged some ASEAN Member Countries which still maintain some reservation to consider removing the reservation to the Convention.
10. We encouraged ASEAN Member Countries which have not ratified the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW to study the Optional Protocol and its requirement.
11. **We agreed to hold the 2nd ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Good Practices in the CEDAW Reporting and Follow-up in 2010.**

Adopted in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, on 15 January 2008.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN VARIOUS SECTORS

**Exhibition Workshop on gender Mainstreaming in Lao PDR , 29 October 2008
Vientiane Capital**

To Commemorate the 5th Anniversary of LaoNCAW 2003-2008

The Government of Lao PDR has a strong Political Will in promoting Gender Equality, in which its goals and priorities have been clearly identified in the National Social-Economic Development Plan 2006-2010. The government gender strategy aims at reducing poverty have been developed based on better understanding and give a great attention to the role of Lao Women in the Society. The effective participation of women especially the poor and ethnic, are very important and necessary for the country in reducing poverty and improving the quality of life of women.



LaoNCAW organized the Exhibition Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming aimed at establishing the network for coordinating and exchanging ideas/views and experiences, including best practices in Gender Mainstreaming as well as the promotion of Advancement of Women in each sector. There are about 120 participants from 20 sectors who are from Ministerial and Provincial SubCAWs and International Organizations. After HE. Somsavat LENGSAVAD, Standing Deputy Prime Minister, President of LaoNCAW has delivered his opening remarks, the participants has seen a drama performance: "Unforgotten Voice" performed by the NCA's team. The meeting was carried out by dividing into 3 sessions as follows: (1) Presentation Session, (2) Exhibition Session and (3) Discussion Session.

1. Presentation Session

There are seven sectors that were presented on their gender experiences such as:



Role, Function and Structure of LaoNCAW, Achievements, Obstacles, Challenges and Future Plan.

Presented by LaoNCAW Secretariat



Achievements and Past experiences and Gender Mainstreaming Plan of Ministry of Education.

Presented by SubCAWs of MoE

Gender Mainstreaming Framework in Agriculture and Forestry Sector

Presented by SubCAWs of MoAF



Gender Mainstreaming in Tourism Sector

Presented by SNV



Gender Resource and Information

Development Center , LWU

Presented by GRID Center



Male Participation in Gender Mainstreaming

Presented by GDG



Gender Responsive Budgeting

Presented by Senior Researcher from UNDP Regional Office in Colombo



2. Exhibition Session:

The Exhibitors in this Session are:

1. LaoNCAW
2. Ministerial SubCAWs such as: Justice, Agriculture and Forestry, Health, Education, Labor and Social Welfare and Energy and Mining.
3. Mass Organization: GRID and Land Titling Project (LWU).
4. Provincial SubCAWs including: Attapeu, Champasack and Khammouane Province.
5. International Organizations: UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNDP, UNICEF, NCA,WB,SNV,GDG and ADB



3. Discussion Session

This session is divided into 5 small groups discussion as below :

1. Male participation in Gender Mainstreaming facilitated by GDG
2. Gender Mainstreaming in Curriculum Development facilitated by SubCAWs of MoE
3. Reach the Hard to Reach, facilitated by NCA
4. Gender Mainstreaming in Community Development Project facilitated by SubCAWs of MoAF
5. Gender Responsive Budgeting facilitated by Senior Researcher of UNDP Regional Office in Colombo

For getting more detailed information on the Outcomes/Recommendations of each group Discussion, Please kindly Contact LaoNCAW Secretariat at Tel: 856-21-243470, email: laoncaw@laotel.com

Participatory Evaluation of the Capacity Building Initiative for LaoNCAW Project Support by UNFPA/Oxfam Novib



The participatory Evaluation held from 25/09/2009-09/10/2009 aimed at assessing the capacity and the needs of LaoNCAW in general, in particular LaoNCAW Secretariat and some Ministerial / Provincial SubCAWs on the implementation of their work. The process is to review and evaluate the strong points, weakness and lesson learned in the process of Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Equality implementation of LaoNCAW and SubCAWs at all levels. The Evaluation Team comprised of two staffs from LaoNCAW-Secretariat, one Consultant and one officer from UNFPA. The team has collected data with Ministerial SubCAWs such as: MPI, MoH, MoJ, MoAF, MoLSW, MoPWT, LWU and 4 Provincial SubCAWs for instance: Champassack, Atapeu, Savannakhet and Vientiane Province. To encourage more parties/stakeholders to be involved in this process, the Evaluation Team also has been collected data with some members of the National Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and National University of Laos, UN agencies and NGOs who works towards Gender Equality and Women Rights.

I. RESULTS:

Output 1: Strengthened LaoNCAW and Lao NCAW Secretariat as leading National Machinery for Gender Equality in Lao PDR.

- **Key Results:**

- Capacity building of LaoNCAW Secretariat and SubCAWs strengthened (English capacity, financial reporting, and and comprehensive knowledge of gender equality)
- Office management, regular communication and administrative support strongly improved.

- Monitoring tool was regularly updated

Output 2: Gender Mainstreaming Strategies and Action Plan in SubCAWs developed.

- **Key Results:**

- The development of the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation System (PMES) is to provide a conceptual framework and methodology for LaoNCAW in planning and monitoring its activities towards achieving National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (NSAW); gender mainstreaming in all sectors and gender equality in Lao PDR.
- Sectors' Strategic Plan for Gender was partially developed.
- Ministry of Information and Culture, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Vientiane and Khammouane province built initiative for gender equality.

Output 3: Improved awareness and Enhance of government officials, including local authorities on Gender Based Violence.

- **Key Results:**

- Government of Lao PDR has made repeated public statement confirming their support and commitment to CEDAW implementation.
- Violence Against Women (VAW) was officially recognized by the concerned ministries and sectors

II. Findings

Strengths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Role • Powerful Board Members • Under the guidance of Standing Deputy Prime Minister • Cooperation with LWU & others • Support from Development Partners • Access to International Conference and sharing of knowledge 	Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategy for the Advancement of Women 2011-2015 • National Social Economic Development Plan 2011-2015 • Vientiane Declaration Country Action Plan 2009-2011 • Advocacy Roles for high need issues. • Steam line 2 way communication with ministries; provinces • Increased visibility through Advocacy • Knowledge of Gender Equality
	
Weakness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities spread too thinly • Lack of many senior staffs who are experienced • Lack of systematic data collection • Confusion roles of LWU • Management Capacity • Little implementation Rate 	Threats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not take up opportunity offered • Limited Conception Role • Management skills does not keep pace with work-load • Unable to fulfill the needs of network.

III. Expected Activities in the Future Plan 2010

1. Strengthening the Capacity of LaoNCAW at all levels

2. Mainstreaming Gender Equality into strategies:

- Review current NSAW (2006-2010) and develop new NSAW (2011-2015)
- Develop National Violence Strategic Plan (2011-2015)
- Gender Mainstreaming in Vientiane Declaration Country Action Plan (2009-2011)
- Gender Mainstreaming in the 7th National Social-Economic Development Plan (2011-2015)

3. International Commitments:

- CEDAW Follow up Action Plan
- CEDAW Report (on VAW, Migrant Women Workers) in 2011
- Follow up on BPFA+15. ICPD, MDGs

4. Cooperation and Approach;

(For invisibility, transparency and partnership)

- Strengthen cooperation with LWU, GDGs, Development Partners by mainstreaming the gender theme group to share knowledge, profile, update information. And/or new study on gender related issue.
- Increasing joint national strategic plan on Women Advancement/Gender Equality; and on Violence.
- Increasing more joint-activities based for instance (the Commemorate of VAW, March 8,... etc)

3. Provincial SubCAWs

No	Provinces	Established of SubCAWs				Developed Structure of Sub-CAWs				Established Division of Advancement of Women				Developed Division of Advancement of Women				Government Budget (Million)			
		Establish	No of SubCAW Members			Develop	No of SubCAW Members			Establish	No of SubCAW Members			Develop	No of SubCAW Members			Fiscal Year			
			Year	F	M		Total	Year	F		M	Total	Year		F	M	Total	Year	F	M	Total
1	Phongsaly	2005	3	4	7	2006	2	7	9	2007	2	1	3						30	21.5	
2	Luangnumtha	2005	1	8	9	2008	2	16	18	2008	2	1	3						55	95	
3	Oudomxay	2005	3	6	9	2006	2	8	10	2008	2	0	2							80	
4	Xayabury	2005	3	6	9	2009	3	6	9	2008	4	1	5								164
5	Bokeo	2005	6	7	13																10
6	Huaphanh	2005	1	8	9	2009	2	13	15	2007	4	0	4					10	35	95	
7	Luangprabang	2005	1	8	9	2006	2	13	15	2008	4	1	5								412.6
8	Xiengkhuang	2005	2	7	9	2008	3	9	12	2007	2	0	2					17	40	42	
9	Vientiane	2005	1	8	9	2007	1	10	11	2006	3	1	4					10	20	15	
10	Vientiane Capital	2005	4	5	9	2007				2007	1	2	3								
11	Borikhamxay	2005	2	6	8	2008	2	7	9	2008	5	1	6								50
12	Khammuane	2005	2	10	12	2007	1	8	9	2007	3	0	3					70	65	76	
13	Savanakhet	2005	1	8	9	2006	3	7	10	2007	3	1	4					20	20		
14	Saravane	2005				2008	1	20	21	2008	5	1	6					24	35		
15	Champasack	2004	2	15	17	2008	5	16	21	2008	4	1	5								124
16	Sekong	2005	3	16	19	2007	3	7	10	2005	3	1	4	2008	3	1	4	15	17	30	
17	Attapeu	2005	1	9	10	2008	3	9	12	2007	4	0	4						50	20	

**Photos of the Evaluation Team with SubCAWs
in some Ministries and Provinces**



Coordinating with sectors, International Organization and Development Partners



Lunch Reception at the Swedish Residence in Lao PDR

Participation on ICPD events in 2009

LaoNCAW Secretariat participated the World Population Day-ICPD 15th on: “Meeting MDGs through Universal Access to Reproductive health and Investing in Women is a Smart Choice” July 2009.

LaoNCAW Secretariat participated in the Launch of Status of World Population 2009 Report. This report has benefited from contribution from the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, and the United Nations Environment Programme. This report is called: “Facing a changing World: Women, Population and Climate. This report calls attention to Women and vulnerable population in the response to climate change.

Participation in the MDGs Costing process:

LaoNCAW Secretariat participated in the Consultation Meeting to assess the needs and budget to achieves MDGs in 2015 organized by Ministry of Planning & Investment, the purpose of the meeting is to assess the needs for MDGs and the Cost to achieve MDGs in Lao PDR in identifying the Infrastructure, Human Resources and Financial Resources Needs to reach the expected targets of MDGs in 2015. This process has been carried out by dividing into 5 groups such as: (1) Agriculture and Rural Infrastructure, (2) Environment and Water, (3) Health, (4) Energy, (5) Gender. For Gender Group, LaoNCAW was assigned to be a chair of the group in which comprised of: LWU, MPI, MoLSW and MOE. This Gender group has fulfilled the task in identifying Gender Interventions and its costing needs to achieve MDGs to integrate in the 7th National Social Economic Development Plan (7th NSEDP).

Participation in Vientiane Declaration Country Action Plan (VDCAP)

LaoNCAW as a Government focal point on Gender Mainstreaming in general, in particular in the VDCAP, LaoNCAW has a main role to ensure that all sectors will carry on its commitment on Gender Mainstreaming in their respective sectors by raising awareness and create proper understanding on this matter, also to assist in terms of technical and provide an appropriate information related to gender issues.

ESCAP High level Intergovernment Meeting to review the Implementation of Beijing+15 in the Region and its Regional and Global Outcomes, Bangkok, 16-18 November 2009

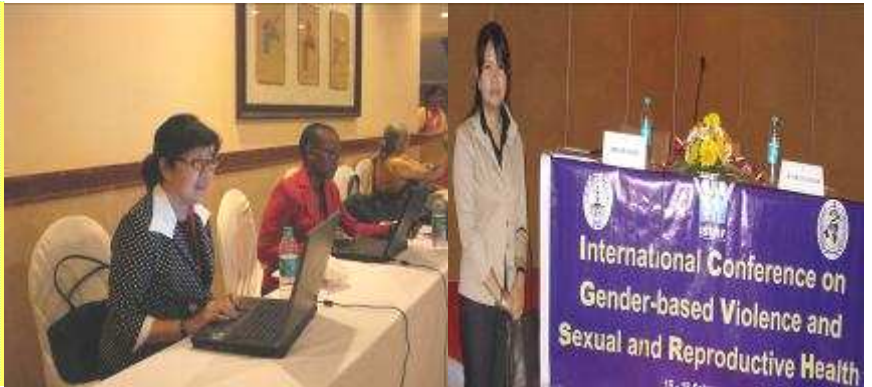
On behalf of the Government of Lao PDR, LaoNCAW and Lao Women's Union attended the above mentioned meeting with the support from UNESCAP. The Meeting had reviewed (1) Gender Equality and Empowering Women in Asia-Pacific on Gender Responsive Planning and Public Expenditures; (2) Progress and reduce gender gaps, obstacles and new challenges; (3) Response to economic crisis, security and economic rights; (4) To achieve the MGDs; (5) The Implementation of CEDAW in the Asia-Pacific region, achievements and challenges; (6) Regional campaign to end violence against women (VAW).

The Meeting has been reviewed those 6 main topics and successfully adopted "Bangkok Declaration for Beijing +15, 2009"



Lao PDR delegation taken photos with Dr. Noleen Heyzer Under UN Secretary General and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP

SubCAWs of MoH and MoJ attended International Conference on Gender Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health between 15-18 February 2009 in India supported by Capacity Building Initiative for LaoNCAW Project (UNFPA/OxfamNovib)



LaoNCAW Secretariat staffs attended a training on "Project Financial Management" from 19 July-1 August 2009, Thailand, supported by Capacity Building Initiative for LaoNCAW Project (UNFPA/Oxfam Novib)



LaoNCAW Secretariat staff attended "Seminar on Promotion Gender Equality III" from November 15 - December 16 2009 in JAPAN, Supported by JICA



SubCAWs of MoAF and MoPWT attended the Workshop: "Making Governance Gender Responsive, From 23-30 July 2009" in Philippines, supported by Capacity Building Initiative for LaoNCAW Project (UNFPA/Oxfam Novib)



Supervisor: Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women

Text & Editing by: Ms. Chansoda PHONETHIP

Deputy Director of LaoNCAW Secretariat

Design & Layout by: Ms. Vathana INLORKHAM

Technical staff

Layout & Insert photo by: Ms. Sipaphanh MOUNHALATH

Technical staff

Prime Minister Office

Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women

**The Secretariat Office of LaoNCAW
is located at: Ministry of Planning & Investment
Souphanouvong Avenue , P.O. Box 4507
Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR**

Tel/Fax: 856-21-243470, E-mail: laoncaw@laotel.com

Supported the Publishing by:

