

Statement by

Delegation of the Lao PDR on Universalization

At Intersessional Meeting of States Parties to CCM

27 June, 2011, Geneva

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of the Lao PDR, I would like to express our appreciation to Japan as friend of the President of the First Meeting of States Parties on universalization for the good work it has carried out to promote the universalization of the Convention.

Universalization is one of the key aspects of the Convention that can ensure its legitimacy. Let me share with you on the activities we have undertaken over the past few months on universalization. We have seized every opportunity possible to promote universalization of the Convention among states, including in the Non-Aligned Movement, ASEAN and others as well as at various international and regional fora. Recently at the 16<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Movement held in Bali, Indonesia, we have actively promoted CCM and urged states not yet parties to the CCM to consider do so. With our active negotiation and explanation, and with support and cooperation from our fellow States Parties attending therein, we have achieved recognition of CCM at the same par with other international conventions reflected in the final outcome document of Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chair,

I do share the view that there are various reasons that hinder non states parties to access to the convention and one of those is the lack of resources. Affected countries always have an expectation about the benefits they can get from being party to the convention apart from meeting the obligations. Therefore, it is important to note that in order to attract more non states parties to join the convention, particularly the undecided affected countries there is a need to make this case strong and ensure that the affected states parties to the convention do benefit from being party to the Convention.

I thank you.