

ພັນທະມິຕເພື່ອປະຊາທິປະໄຕໃນລາວ ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY IN LAOS Alliance pour la Démocratie au Laos

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## Statement by the Alliance for Democracy in Laos on the conference of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva on the Lao PDR on September 28, 2020

The third regular review meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva on the Lao PDR has taken place on September 28, 2020 with the participation of the government of the Lao PDR, as well as several governments and international organizations.

In the official statement of the Lao PDR at the conference it was announced that the Lao PDR had implemented the proposals of the Human Rights Council in the past in accordance with the ideology and the laws of the Lao PDR. 226 recommendations has been summarized by the working group of the Human Rights Council, from this only 160 were accepted by representatives of the Lao PDR, and the remaining 66 were rejected by the authorities of the Lao PDR because they were not in accordance with the PDR law in Laos.

The government of the Lao PDR has rejected the allegations made by many governments and international organizations that the authorities of the Lao PDR have not acted regarding the freedom of expression, information rights, civil and political rights.

Our organization, the Alliance for Democracy in Laos, notes that the Lao PDR is not sincere; there are still many human rights violations. Whenever the government of Laos attends a meeting of the Human Rights Council and a meeting of the Human Rights Commission, they gives a false report to the International Organizations and provides them false information, although there is much evidence to the contrary, we refer to that arrest of Mr.Sangkhan Phachanthavong(Thisy),Ms. Houaheuang Xayabouly (Mouay) and the other political opponents. International NGO's have announced that the right to freedom of expression, information and freedom of the press are still severely restricted. International journalists are still being hindered, but this is denied by the Lao authorities.

Following the forced disappearance of Sombath Somphone, the PDR authorities in Laos also rejected the British government's proposal to accept a special international commission to investigate the PDR in Laos, which also shows the dishonesty of the authorities in Laos.

The government of Lao PDR had announced that the new § 315 guaranteed freedom of religion, but Christians are still being arrested for their religion. Mr. Sithon Thipphavong, a 34-year-old Christian missionary in Kaleumwangkhae Village, Chonburi District, Savannakhet Province, was arrested by district police on March 15, 2020. It is currently unknown what measures will be taken against him or what crime he is alleged to have committed.

The promise of the Lao PDR authorities to cooperate in all aspects with the international community, while at the same time falsifying the truth and lying to the international community, is a false and disingenuous attitude of the Laotian PDR authorities towards the international community as well as towards the UN Human Rights Council. We therefore call

on the United Nations Human Rights Council to set up a special commission to monitor the reality of serious human rights violations in the Laos PDR and to call on the Laos PDR authorities to implement all proposals of the Human Rights Council.

In Germany on September 29, 2020



President of the Alliance for Democracy in Laos Dr. Bounthone Chanthalavong- Wiese

Send to:

- UN Human Rights Council
- UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- UN Human Rights Commission
- Various permanent missions of the UN member states
- International human right organization's

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