

**Remarks by Major General Khamla Phanxayasouk the Political Commissar of Kaisone Phomvihane Academy of National Defence at the 25<sup>TH</sup> ARF HDUCIM**



Mr Chair

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen

First of all, on behalf of defence institutions of the Lao People's Army, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the host for inviting me and my delegation to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> ARF HDUCIM and providing me the opportunity to exchange my view at this significant event.

I would like to congratulate the meeting for proposing such interesting research topics, which are meaningful, and relevant to current conditions and situations of the world.

Mr Chair and distinguished delegates

At this meeting I would like exchange views on the topic of infusing peace education into the curriculum of professional military education. I think this topic is a good concept since peace is in connection with the development of the world community, which contributes to peacebuilding in the region and the world, and implements and supports the UN resolution and the desire of the world community to make the world a place without violence, fighting, poverty, and other things that bring a negative impact to peace and the development of the world.

Dear friends,

As we know that there is a tendency for armed conflicts to increase in many regions of the world, which has affected security such as energy security, inflation, and displacement of millions of people. Because of this tendency, many countries are competing one another to expand their armies, develop new military tactics and strategies, invent contemporary technologies and weapons of mass destruction in order to take advantage of their adversaries, gain victory over a battle or a war, and do more harm to the opposite side involving in the fighting, all of which hamper the development and peacebuilding in the world now and in the long term.

Therefore, there is a need for the world community to know and understand peace, peacekeeping activities done by peacekeepers, especially, the

armed forces and military personnel since peace education aims to create a peaceful world community. Peace is a pathway that we will take in order to grow and bring prosperity to the human society. Unless we have peace and harmony, we will not have political stability, economic strength, cultural development. I was impressed when Mr. Ban Ki Moon said “Education plays a vital role in training people to be good citizens of the world.” Unless we infuse peace education into the curriculum of professional military education, we cannot implant peace attitudes in military leaders’ mindset so that they value peace and have knowledge about peace when they are deployed on a military mission and a peacekeeping mission. Additionally, it enhances the role and readiness of military personnel to handle challenges and makes a contribution to peacebuilding, security and development of the country and the world.

For my country, we value, uphold and support world peace; however, for the Lao People’s Army, there is no peace education in a particular curriculum of professional military education because peace education is still a new thing for us. Therefore, we need to do more research and prepare academics who specialize in peace education teaching before we infuse it into our curriculum of professional military education. I hope that we will collaborate and exchange lessons from you regarding the infusion of peace education into the curriculum so that we can implement the concept.

Lastly, I would like to wish the chair and all delegations a happiness and success in their noble tasks.

Wishing the meeting a fruitful outcome.

Thank you