

# **STATEMENT**

## **The Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum 2022 14-15 December 2022, Hong Kong**

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# THE ROLE OF CULTURE

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- Culture has played an important role in the process of national social and economic development. The development of a community cannot be successful if one neglects one own value culture.
- Culture is a fundamental instrument for establishing and maintaining a lasting friendly relationship. Other than that, Culture can be more meaningful in day-to-day life and cannot be separated from a human being.
- The culture sector is related to economic opportunity and offered the opportunity to create jobs and foster a connection and respect for development.

# CULTURAL POLICY IN THE LAO PDR

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- The Lao government recognizes the importance of culture as a force for social integration and national identity displayed in education and socio-economic life.
- The Lao government also has constantly sought to nurture and develop diverse cultural traditions of multi-ethnic people which contribute to boosting tourism development and promotion more effectively in order to bring a concrete benefit toward poverty reduction among ethnic groups within the country.
- On the other hand, our government has attached great importance to ensuring the cultural survival of heritage and protecting the serenity and beauty of those unique places.

# THE CULTURAL CONCERNS

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- How can the essential part of the culture in material and spiriting tourism, and heritage that is aligned with its traditional arts and cultural practices, be preserved for future generations?
- How can cultural heritage be promoted in a sustainable way?
- How can we manage the number of visitors to national cultural heritage sites to ensure the sound protection of those heritage sites?
- How can we keep and maintain the traditional, cultural, social, and economic patterns which create the heritage resources of the country?

# FUTURE COOPERATION AMONG ASIAN COUNTRIES

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We, the Lao PDR highly appreciate China's initiative of Asia Cultural Co-operation because each of our countries has a rich of uniqueness and colourful cultural attractions that share so many cultural similarities. I believe that we can jointly promote and integrate our cultural heritage for mutual benefit.

I am confident that the forum today will be productive, and fruitful. It will be a significant platform for information sharing on cultural cooperation among Asian countries.

THANK YOU