



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

Permanent Mission of the Lao PDR
to the United Nations Office and
other International Organizations

Geneva

No. 245/LAO.PM.GE.25

The Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Procedure Branch and, with reference to an urgent appeal Ref: UA LAO 4/2025, dated 17 October 2025, has the honor to provide response and clarification from the Government of the Lao PDR as follows:

The Government of the Lao PDR extends its sincere thanks to the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, for raising concerns on the case of [REDACTED]. After receiving the urgent appeal from special procedure, the Government of the Lao PDR has paid close attention to the case and tasked the relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Security, and the Special Task Force in Bokeo Province, to coordinate closely.

[REDACTED] and holder of passport number [REDACTED] applied for an entry visa to the Lao PDR through the Lao Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, [REDACTED]. He arrived at Wattay International Airport on 24 May 2025 and was received by a company to work in the Special Economic Zone, Located in Tonpheung District, Bokeo Province. According to his verbal report, [REDACTED] stated that he was hired to work as an online salesman. Subsequently, he was taken to unknown call center to work for people without a business license in the Golden Triangle area. On 25 May 2025, the first day of his work, the company forcibly took his passport. He apparently found out that he was not being paid in accordance with the initial agreement, and the company was engaged in illegal cyber-related activities. On 26 October 2025, the concerned authorities took necessary actions. [REDACTED] along with other workers, was safely relocated to a more secure shelter in Vientiane, Lao PDR. He is in good physical and mental condition. He has been allowed to move freely with all necessary amenities provided, including access to clean water, adequate food, decent accommodation, and means of communication with his family. In addition, the authorities have kept him informed about where his passport and all his belongings are securely stored.

He expressed his deep gratitude to the Lao Government for ensuring his safety and well-being. As a result, he voluntarily agreed, without any coercion, to write a statement¹ and record a short video² clip to provide reliable evidence.

The Government of Lao PDR undertook all necessary efforts to take the most appropriate actions against all companies operating unlawfully, in accordance with the national law and international convention to which the Lao PDR is a party. In this regard, the Lao Government has returned his passport, ID card, and responded to his request to voluntarily return to Malaysia. As agreed by both sides, [REDACTED] will purchase his own flight ticket from Vientiane to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and he already departed from Vientiane to Malaysia on [REDACTED] via Wattay International Airport. His Boarding Passes³ are enclosed herewith as references.

The Permanent mission reaffirms that the Government of the Lao PDR will take all necessary measures to prevent all illegal activities and bring all perpetrators to justice. The Lao Government will continue to attach great importance to ensuring cybersecurity within its territory and cooperating closely with all neighboring countries to combat cybercrime.

The Permanent Mission of the Lao PDR to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Procedure Branch in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 09 December 2025



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human
Special Procedure Branch
Geneva

¹ Appendix 1

² Appendix 2

³ Appendix 3