

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Tuon Thavrak Secretary of
State Ministry of Planning**

**Chair of the Associated Event on Voluntary National
Reviews**

I had the honour to chair, yesterday, an associated event to this Forum organized with the objectives of: providing a status update on the SDG localization, planning and implementation in the countries that have volunteered to do voluntary national reviews in 2016 indicating; discussing possible ways of providing country-to-country support in preparing voluntary national reviews; and discussing what form of regional support would be most pertinent and effective for the countries in preparing and using national reviews.

The follow up and review process, which constitute an important part of overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda, is rooted in a number of principles including its voluntary, participatory and country-led nature, openness and inclusiveness. The review process should build on existing platforms and processes and be rigorous and evidence based, with enhanced capacity-

building support for developing countries and active support of the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions.

In the inaugural year of the 2030 development agenda, 22 countries, both developed and developing, have stepped forward to undertake the first national voluntary reviews. 6 of those countries are in the Asia and the Pacific region: China, Georgia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa and Turkey. The national reviews will be featured in the High Level Political Forum to be held in July in New York.

During the panel discussion, countries presented mechanisms and plans in support of the implementation of the SDGs; the institutional framework for the follow and review process and the consultative process to align national planning to the 2030 Development Agenda. The delegates also expressed the need for regional support for the follow up and review process, the facilitation of technology transfer and knowledge sharing and sustained cooperation to achieve the Development Goals.