



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Prime Minister No.04/PM

Vientiane capital, dated 08 January 2024

Decision on Lao Business Forum

- Pursuant to Law on Government No.03/NA, dated 16 November 2021.
- Pursuant to the Request Letter of Ministry of Industry and Commerce No.2169/MOIC, dated 23 November 2023.

Prime Minister issued Decision:

Category 1
General Provision

Article 1. Purpose

This decision defines the principles, organization structure, roles, rights and duties as well as Lao business forum to facilitate the public and private sector for consultation, addressing the problems of establishing and operating business which have the impact on the environment of business operation in Lao PDR. To ensure the implementation is consistent with laws and regulations.

Article 2. Lao Business Forum

Lao business forum is the mechanism for facilitating the consultation between public and private sector to provide internal and external business operators bring the issues and impact on establishing and operating business. As well as offering the improvement or reducing the limitation of regulations, providing feedback on enforcing laws and regulations which are related to business operation which government has issued. Also, providing the solution methodology to public sector in order to consider, encourage, monitor the implementation of the consultation results and problem solving continually.

Unofficial translation

The consultation mechanism under Lao business meeting is written in English as “Lao Business Forum-LBF”.

Article 3. The Principles of Lao Business Forum

Lao business forum shall be implemented as principles below:

1. Consistent, accurate according to relevant laws and regulations.
2. Implement according to roles and duties as prescribed on this Decision.
3. Consult as team, based on the majority vote, divide the responsibility, transparency, can be checked, reveal and equality.
4. The problem which will be raised shall be the general issue of business sector, not the problem of business each business operator.
5. The problem which will be presented shall be researched and analyzed in detail and have clear solutions to offer.

Category 2

The Organization Structure, Rights and Duties

Article 4. Organization Structure

The organization structure of Lao business forum includes steering committee, coordination committee, business consultation unit and secretariate.

Article 5. Steering Committee

Steering committee includes:

1. Deputy Prime Minister as a chair
2. Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce as deputy chair and be stationed
3. Deputy Minister, deputy head of Prime Minister Office as deputy chair
4. Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce as member and be a head of public coordination committee
5. Deputy Minister, Ministry of Planning and Investment as member
6. The chair of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as member and be a head of secretariat

Article 6. The Rights and Duties of Steering Committee

The rights and duties of steering committee includes:

1. Direct general order to the implementation of Lao business forum
2. Direct order to address the problems which have raised on Lao business forum
3. Report the progress of problems and provide the solutions to government
4. Define the agenda and content of Lao business forum yearly
5. Organize the meeting to extent the order of Lao business forum and issue the notification to relevant agencies in order to implement the results of Lao business forum
6. Provide the way forward and policies which are related to business promotion and development in each period to government.

Article 7. The Structure of Public Coordination Committee

Public coordination committee includes:

1. Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce as chair
2. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Industry and Commerce as deputy chair and be stationed
3. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Planning and Investment as member
4. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Finance as member
5. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Public Works and Transport as member
6. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism as member
7. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry as member
8. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Bank of Lao PDR as member
9. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Technology and Communication as member
10. Head of Permanent Secretary office, Ministry of Energy and Mine as member
11. Representative of relevant agencies.

Article 8. The Rights and Duties of Public Coordination Committee

The rights and duties of public coordination committee as below:

1. Monitor the progress of problem solving which is related to the organization and report the implementation to high level of ministry and steering committee of Lao business forum regularly.
2. Coordinate with government agencies, private sector and relevant agencies to encourage, monitor the business problem solving continually.
3. Extent the order of each Lao business forum to relevant agencies acknowledges and implements.
4. Be a secretariat for steering committee.
5. Organize the meeting of the public coordination committee and steering committee.

Unofficial translation

6. A person of public stationed shall work with the secretariat in order to study and research business problems which have been raised and provide the comments in term of assisting the business consultation unit to define the priority issues and create the problem proposal.

Article 9. The Structure of Business Consultation Unit

The business consultation unit includes:

1. Business consultation unit of Producing sector
2. Business consultation unit of Service sector
3. Business consultation unit of Trade, Transportation and Logistics sector
4. Business consultation unit of Tourism sector
5. Business consultation unit of Producing and Processing Agriculture sector
6. Business consultation unit of Financial Service sector
7. Business consultation unit of ICT
8. Business consultation unit of Electric Energy sector
9. Business consultation unit of Handicrafts sector
10. Other units as agreed by the chair of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as necessary in each period.

Article 10. The Rights and Duties of Business Consultation Unit

The rights and duties of business consultation unit as below:

1. Organize the open meeting to discuss about the problems which are related to the organization
2. Identify the priority issues which have the impact on the member of unit
3. Create a problem proposal which has clear solutions
4. Be a key person to present the problem and discuss with relevant agencies on the consultation meeting between public and private sector on technical level
5. Monitor the progress of problem solving which has been raised and report the results of implementation to chair of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and steering committee of Lao business forum regularly
6. Coordinate with relevant government sectors in order to encourage, monitor the business problem solving continually.

Article 11. The Structure of Secretariat

Secretariat includes:

1. Deputy Chair of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as chair
2. Secretariat of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as deputy chair
3. Deputy secretariat of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as member
4. Director of Public Relation and Improvement of Business Environment Division, Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as member
5. Technical Officer of Public Relation and Improvement of Business Environment Division, Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry as supporter.

Article 12. The Rights and Duties of Secretariat

The rights and duties of secretariat as below:

1. Be a secretariat for business consultation unit
2. Assist to establish the business consultation unit as necessary in each period
3. Identify the format and implementing method of business consultation unit
4. Assist to define the problems, identify the priority and create the proposal for solving the problems
5. Facilitate the consultation, monitor and report the progress of problem solving regularly
6. Record the meeting of annual Lao Business Forum with a person who is stationed of public coordination committee
7. Provide technical consultation and strengthen the business consultation coordination unit.

Category 3

Procedures of Lao Business Forum

Article 13. Procedures of Lao Business Forum

The procedures of Lao business forum have 4 steps as below:

1. Identify priority problems of private sector
2. Consultation meeting between public and private sector
3. Prepare and organize Lao business forum meeting
4. Extent the results of Lao business forum meeting

Article 14. Identify Priority Problems of Private Sector

The procedures of identifying priority of business issues, the private sector shall define the problems which have the impact on establishing and operating business which are priority, as well

as provide the solutions which need the relevant government agencies to consider. In order to identify priority issues, business consultation unit can organize the meeting of unit according to each sector or problem topic or collect the problems from members of unit each period as appropriate in order to consolidate, scan and prioritize the problems which have the impact on each sector and prepare for the consultation meeting with public sector of technical level and/or policy level.

Article 15. Consultation Meeting between Public and Private Sector

The consultation meeting between public and private sector has a technical level and high level of each sector which has a target to address the priority issues which private sector has raised. This meeting is taken between the representatives of the private sector and relevant government agencies in order to agree on the ways and methods of addressing business problems. The head of the business consultation unit and public coordination unit are responsible for defining the necessity and methodology of meeting each time.

Article 16. Prepare and Organize Lao Business Forum Meeting

Prepare and organize Lao business forum includes 3 procedures as below:

1. Organize the meeting of the public coordination committee to monitor the progress and encourage the problem solving which has been discussed between public and private sector in technical level and/or high level of sector. A meeting of the public coordination committee is organized every quarter in order to prepare the report for the steering committee.
2. Organize the steering meeting to monitor the progress, provide the orders to relevant agencies in order to address the problems and prepare for annual Lao business forum. A meeting of the steering committee is organized every 6 months by having the public coordination committee to arrange the meeting.
3. Organize annual Lao business forum meeting chaired by Prime Minister. This meeting is organized for summarizing and evaluating the progress of problem solving which has the impact on establishing and operating business as well as to identify the way forward in order to address the problem which are pending.

Article 17. Extent the Results of Lao Business Forum Meeting

To extent the results of Lao business forum meeting, the chair of Lao business forum meeting issues the resolutions of Lao business forum meeting according to the offer of steering committee as a referenced for extending the results of annual Lao business forum meeting.

Category 4
Final Provision

Article 18. Budget

The budget for implementing Lao business forum will be funded from the government, individual, legal entity and private organization.

Article 19. Implementation

Ministries, organizations, provinces, capital and relevant agencies shall acknowledge and implement this Decision to be effective.

Article 20. Effectiveness

This Decision is effective since the date of signature.

Prime Minister
Sonexay Siphandone