



[Unofficial translation]

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)

No. 0320/MPI

Vientiane Capital, 11 February 2022

To:

- Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of National Defence;**
- Minister of Public Security;**
- Minister of Foreign Affairs;**
- Minister of Finance;**
- Minister of Education and Sports;**
- Minister of Health;**
- Minister of Agriculture and Forestry;**
- Minister of Public Works and Transportation;**
- Minister of Industry and Commerce;**
- Minister of Natural Resources and Environment;**
- Minister of Home Affairs;**
- Ministry of Mining and Energy;**
- Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare;**
- Minister of Justice;**
- Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism;**
- Minister of Technology and Communications;**
- Governor of the Bank of Lao PDR;**
- Governor of Vientiane Capital; and**
- Governors of provinces nationwide.**

Subject: **Government instruction on the result of the 13th High-Level Round Table Meeting (HL-RTM) in 2021 on “Enhancing partnership to improve the effective implementation of the 9th five-year National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED) aiming to accelerate the country’s achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) status in the mid of COVID-19 recovery.”**

- Pursuant to the Prime Minister’s Decree No. 636/PM, dated November 26, 2021, on the Organisation and Function of the MPI;
- Pursuant to the Decree on Official Development Assistance (ODA) Management and Application No. 357, dated October 09, 2019;
- Pursuant to the Notice of the Prime Minister’s Office No. 243/PMO, dated March 15, 2021, on the Agreement for Organising the 13th HL-RTM in 2021;
- Pursuant to results of the 13th HL-RTM held on November 17, 2021.

- Pursuant to guild lines of the success of the 13th HL-RTM from Prime Minister's Office No. 1692/PMOF dated 24 December 2021.

Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) is honoured to inform:

1. Assigned the MPI to collaborate with the MoF, National Institute for Economic Research (NIER), Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC), Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MoLS), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Ministry of Health (MoH), other relevant ministries/sectors, local authorities and all parties involved with a special focus on:

- Translate goals, objectives and priorities of the 9th 5-year plan into detailed action plans to be implemented at both central and local levels, including the achievement of SDGs and the LDC status;
 - Focus on the completion of the Financing Strategy to support the implementation of the 9th NSEDP;
 - Monitor and evaluate the implementation progressed of development plans to ensure its tangible outcomes;
 - Conduct information management in relevant sector, and effectively and efficiency monitored policy practices;
 - Ensure the opened contribution from the private sector in planning and implementing the 9th NSEDP.
- ❖ Financing resources for sustainable development and effective development cooperation
- Enhance transparency in debt management and ensuring stability for the financial sector in a sustainable manner.
- ❖ **Trade, private and tourism sectors**
- Improve business and investment environments to expedite its process while enhancing the public-private partnerships and dialogues are on a regular basis;
 - Promote the economic integration with countries and within the region;
 - Provide and to mobilise financial support to tourism and services recover to the normal stage;
 - Provide support to small and medium-sized farming groups during the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - Develop an e-commerce policy framework to facilitate online business operation;
 - Create a special supporting system especially for unemployed women affected by the COVID-19.
- ❖ **Managing changes and increasing policy preparedness for stable job creation**
- Strengthen society by enabling them to resume their business operation; to create and to enforce national policies and regulations on wage, workers and labour migration management; border & checkpoints management;
 - Strengthen the social protection system to respond to impacts by allowing all sectors to openly participate in the system; to continue offering necessary services by focusing on vulnerable groups who are affected;

- Strengthen and to improve the public-private partnerships in terms of better digital skill development, employment services and labour market information for employment;
- Strengthen the implementation of an employment promotion strategy at the local level, particularly in remote areas, ensuring food security, stable income and employment;
- Promote investments on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) at the local level to gain benefits from the investment in various areas, including employment and labour migration.

❖ **Human resource development**

Education:

- Consider to re-open schools with preventive measures, and to address learning loss opportunities due to previous school closure in particular, disadvantage groups for low enrolment and high drop-out rates, while securing sufficient budget for the education sector;
- Continue developing new teaching-learning models for primary education in alignment with the New Normal lifestyles, especially the incorporation of digital skills into basic and higher education;
- Consider increasing quotas for teacher recruitments based on the actual demand throughout the country;
- Enhanced pre-school education and school preparedness, mitigated the drop-out rate, while ensuring the quality and effective education;
- Support teacher's training and transferring knowledge gained to students in an effective manner.

Health:

- Strengthen immunity in the health sector against the COVID-19 pandemic, while providing support to society and individuals to ensure their adaptability to the actual situation;
- Strengthen primary healthcare by arranging a more systematic healthcare service and building capacity for treating persons with acute malnutrition;
- Ensure the provision of mandatory health services in a regular manner, while providing assistance in family and nutrition planning;
- Strengthen capacity building for health personnel to be able to effectively handle emergency cases, while ensuring the provision of basic health services in a sustainable and quality manner;
- Strengthen and to ensure stable financing towards the health sector, while ensuring equal access to health services.

Gender equality:

- Promote investment in female labour workers to boost equality by coming up with a plan to support gender equality and to prevent violence against women, including the mitigation of conflicts in sectors that do not pay enough attention to women and girls;
- Improve access to the social welfare system, childcare services, maternity policy and so on;
- Promote the usage of gender-disaggregated data in a systematic manner.

❖ **Green growth, adaptability and risk management**

- Ensure decreasing the carbon emission in business operation, to support the transition towards clean energy, to promote the consumption of green renewable energy, the budget on nature-friendly activities, sustainable waste management, to support basic infrastructure and green industrialisation, and to seek for green finance to support SMEs;

- Increase investment in local communities in protecting the ecosystem, biodiversity and wildlife; to promote more rights among women and to develop immunity for the communities against risks associated with natural disasters and climate change; to strengthen the private sector; to invest in the supply chain and building resilient basic infrastructure; and to promote resilient agriculture activities in response to climate change and sustainability, while utilising solutions that emphasis on the natural protection;
- Promote a disaster risk management system; ensured accessibility to financial resources for dealing with climate change; to strengthen and incorporated disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptability into ministerial and sectoral workplans;

2. Assigned the MPI to take the lead in collaborating with line ministries, sectors, local authorities, and all parties involved with a particular focus on:

- Implement the Vientiane Declaration based on comprehensively mutual understanding, transparency and a high sense of responsibility by parties involved;
- Ensure participation from all parties involved in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of progress associated with eight principles under the Vientiane Declaration, particularly the Government, development partners, the private sector, CSOs, etc. In addition, a mechanism for monitoring and reporting the implementation of the declaration regularly and comprehensively is required;
- Maximise aid effectiveness through the implementation of the Vientiane Declaration on effective development partners.
- Put all efforts in developing the LDC Graduation Smooth Transition Strategy by discussing with all parties involved as stipulated in the 9th NSEDP;

Thus, this document was made for acknowledgement and proper implementation.

Minister (signed on behalf)

Signed and Sealed

Khamchanh Vongsaneboun