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**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

The Office of the Prime Minister

No. 68/PM  
Vientiane Capital, dated 28 April 2008

**Decree**  
**On Adoption of the Negative List**

- Pursuant to Law on Government of Lao PDR, No. 02/NA, dated 6 May 2007;
- Pursuant to Enterprise Law, No. 11/NA, dated 9 November 2005;
- Pursuant to Recommendation of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, No. 1557/IC, dated 31 August 2007,

**The Prime Minister hereby decrees as follows:**

- Article 1.** The Negative List in the enclosed Annex "A" of this Decree is hereby adopted.
- Article 2.** The Negative List means the list of the businesses which are highly sensitive notably to the national security, public order, fine tradition and culture and environment, and which shall be scrutinized and authorized by the relevant authorities prior to enterprise registration. The Negative List shall not mean a list of businesses prohibited to be operated in the Lao PDR.
- Article 3.** The Government of Lao PDR promotes the strong growth of investments and business operations through the implementation of expeditious, simple and convenient one-stop-shop registration system which means:
- For the business types which are not in the Negative List, the enterprise registration officer shall proceed with the enterprise registration, without seeking any approval from the relevant authorities, within 10 working days of the receipt of the relevant application.
  - For the business types which are in the Negative List, the enterprise registration officer shall immediately forward the relevant application to the relevant authorities who shall respond within 10 working days, except for those businesses requiring longer technical examination. Then the enterprise registration officer shall issue an enterprise registration certificate within 3 working days. In case of rejection, a written notice with rejection reasons shall be communicated to the applicant.
- Article 4.** The relevant authorities shall amend or issue their regulations on examination and authorization procedures which shall be comprehensive, clear and easy prior to enterprise registration for those businesses falling in the Negative List, in compliance with timeframes as set out in paragraph two of Article 14 of the Enterprise Law and this Decree.
- Article 5.** The relevant authority may propose the adjustment of the Negative List, within their responsibilities, as appropriate and necessary from time to time to the Government for consideration and approval.

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It is prohibited for any other persons than the Government to change the Negative List or set timeframes in contradiction with the Enterprise Law and this Decree. Violators shall be subject to measures as set out in the Enterprise Law.

**Article 6.** The relevant authorities shall revoke all their regulations on examination and authorization procedures prior to enterprise registration for those businesses not falling in the Negative List.

**Article 7.** The relevant authorities shall promptly improve their existing regulations or issue new regulations as necessary to be clear, thorough and in compliance with laws and Government's regulations in order to enhance the supervision of existing enterprises under their respective responsibilities, such as: eligibility criteria, inspection, certification, approval or authorization for all businesses whether falling in the Negative List or not, as provided for in paragraph 2 of Article 230 of the Enterprise Law.

**Article 8.** The Ministry of Industry and Commerce shall be the center to disseminate, guide, inspect, monitor and encourage the effective implementation of this Decree. All ministries, organizations and local administration authorities shall strictly implement this Decree.

**Article 9.** This Decree is effective from the date of signature.

The Prime Minister of Lao PDR

*Signed and sealed*

Bouasone Boupphavanh

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Annex “A”

The Negative List or the list of business types which shall be authorized by the relevant authorities prior to enterprise registration  
(Pursuant to third paragraph of Article 2 of the Enterprise Law)

Sectors	ISIC codes	Type of business	Relevant authorities
<b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>			
	0170	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
	0210	Silviculture and other forestry activities	MOAF
	0220	Logging	MOAF
	0230	Gathering of non-wood forest products	MOAF
	0312	Freshwater fishing	MOAF
<b>Mining and quarrying</b>			
	0510	Mining of hard coal	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0520	Mining of lignite	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0610	Extraction of crude petroleum	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0620	Extraction of natural gas	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0710	Mining of iron ores	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0721	Mining of uranium and thorium ores	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0729	Mining of other non-ferrous metal ores	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0810	Quarrying of stone, sand and clay	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0891	Mining of chemical and fertilizer minerals	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0892	Extraction of peat	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0893	Extraction of salt	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	0899	Other mining and quarrying n.e.c.	Ministry of Energy and Mines
<b>Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply</b>			
	3510	Electric power generation, transmission and distribution	Ministry of Energy and Mines
	3520	Gas production, gas distribution through the big pipeline	Ministry of Energy and Mines
<b>Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities</b>			
	3600	Water collection, treatment and supply	MCTPC
	3700	Sewerage	MCTPC
	3812	Collection of hazardous waste	MCTPC
	3822	Treatment and disposal of hazardous waste	MCTPC
<b>Transportation and storage</b>			
	4911	Passenger rail transport, interurban	MCTPC
	4912	Freight rail transport	MCTPC
	4930	Transport via pipeline	MCTPC
	5110	Passenger air transport	MCTPC
	5120	Freight air transport	MCTPC
	5310	Postal activities	MCTPC
<b>Information and Communication</b>			
	5811	Book publishing	Ministry of Information and Culture
	5813	Publishing of newspapers, journals and periodicals	Ministry of Information and Culture
	5911	Motion picture, video and television programme production activities	Ministry of Information and Culture
	5912	Motion picture, video and television programme post-production activities	Ministry of Information and Culture

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	5913	Motion picture, video and television programme distribution activities	Ministry of Information and Culture
	5920	Sound recording and music publishing activities	Ministry of Information and Culture
	6010	Radio broadcasting	Ministry of Information and Culture
	6021	Television broadcasting	Ministry of Information and Culture
	6022	Leasing programme via cable , satellite and others	Ministry of Information and Culture
	6110	Wired telecommunications activities	MCTPC
	6120	Wireless telecommunications activities	MCTPC
	6130	Satellite telecommunications activities	MCTPC
	6190	Other telecommunications activities	MCTPC
<b>Financial and insurance activities</b>			
	6411	Central banking	Bank of Lao PDR
	6419	Other monetary intermediation	Bank of Lao PDR
	6420	Activities of holding companies	Ministry of Finance
	6430	Trusts, funds and similar financial entities	Bank of Lao PDR
	6491	Financial leasing	Bank of Lao PDR
	6492	Other credit granting	Bank of Lao PDR
	6499	Other financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding activities, n.e.c.	Bank of Lao PDR
	6511	Life insurance	Ministry of Finance
	6512	Non-life insurance	Ministry of Finance
	6520	Reinsurance	Ministry of Finance
	6530	Pension funding	Ministry of Finance
	6611	Administration of financial markets	Ministry of Finance
	6612	Security and commodity contracts brokerage	Ministry of Finance
	6619	Other activities auxiliary to financial service activities	Ministry of Finance
	6630	Fund management activities	Ministry of Finance
<b>Human health and social work activities</b>			
	8610	Hospital activities	Ministry of Health
	8620	Medical and dental practice activities	Ministry of Health
	8690	Other human health activities	Ministry of Health
<b>Arts, entertainment and recreation</b>			
	9200	Gambling and betting activities	Ministry of Information and Culture
	9321	Activities of amusement parks and theme parks	National Tourism Authority, Ministry of Information and Culture