

*Attn: Ms. Othel  
POEA Marketing*

*Fax: 724-3724*

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, hereinafter referred to as the Parties;

**DESIRING** to further enhance the existing bilateral relationship of the Parties;

**RECOGNIZING** the responsibilities and contributions respectively of the Parties with regard to technical cooperation on labor and employment;

**AIMING** to strengthen the collaboration between the two countries through joint projects, and/or undertakings on labor and employment, specifically capability-building programs for the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in order to strengthen its role for national development;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

**ARTICLE I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The Parties shall cooperate in the field of labor and employment in accordance with their respective existing national laws, rules and regulations.

**ARTICLE II  
AUTHORITIES**

The executing authorities of this technical collaboration will be:

For the Government of the Republic of the Philippines: The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);

For the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic: The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MOLSW).

### ARTICLE III GUIDELINES FOR LABOR COLLABORATION

This Memorandum involves collaboration between the two Parties in pursuing labor and employment and human resource development activities and projects in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Specifically, both Parties agree to develop a formal mechanism by which they will participate in the formulation of technical collaboration project for the labor capability building programs for the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Lao PDR.

Under this Agreement, the Philippines shall:

1. Provide technical assistance and support in the actual implementation of the projects and training in the areas of:
  - a) labor administration;
  - b) labor migration;
  - c) employment promotion;
  - d) occupational safety and health; and
  - e) gender equality/expansion of employment opportunities for women
2. Provide short term consultants to follow-up or supervise the implementation of the projects;
3. Provide labor experts and arrange the participation of Lao PDR's Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare in training courses or study tours on labor capability building programs;



The Lao PDR shall:

4. Make available its facilities and other requirements for the effective implementation of this agreement;
5. Make arrangements for the sourcing of funds from donor agencies, UN system organizations, and other international organizations, for the implementation of projects.

Both Parties shall encourage their implementing authorities to coordinate in the above mentioned activities in accordance with the rules and regulations in force in each country.

#### **ARTICLE IV IMPLEMENTATION**

The Parties shall conclude an "Implementing Guidelines" in order to lay out the terms of implementation of the provision of this MOU at the earliest convenience after the signing of the MOU.

#### **ARTICLE V SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

Any dispute between the Contracting Parties arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum shall be settled by consultations or negotiations, through diplomatic channels.

#### **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS OR REVISIONS**

Any amendment or revision to the text of this Memorandum shall be done by mutual consent of the Parties, through diplomatic channels. This amendment or revision shall enter into force in accordance with Article VII.

**ARTICLE VII  
ENTRY INTO FORCE, VALIDITY AND TERMINATION**

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of the later notification by the Parties, through diplomatic channels, indicating that the domestic requirements for its entry into force have been complied with.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Memorandum.

Done in Vientiane on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2005, in two original copies in English text, both copies being equally authentic.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES:**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC:**

  
**HON. ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

  
**H.E. SOMSAVAT LENGSAVAD**  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Foreign Affairs