

Significant Government Restructuring in Laos: A Strategic Step Toward Legal and Institutional Reform

Following the Resolution of the Central Party Executive Committee on the Restructuring of Organizational Establishment No. 3/CPEC, dated 12 March 2025 and the Resolution of the National Assembly on the approval of the Government Organizational Restructuring No. 05/NA, dated 20 March 2025, these resolutions reflect the Lao PDR government's commitment to enhancing administrative efficiency, improving policy coordination, and responding effectively to national development priorities. In pursuit of these objectives, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has endorsed the restructuring of key ministries as a strategic component of its organizational restructuring plan.



Key Restructuring:

- The **Ministry of Energy and Mines** has been integrated into the **Ministry of Industry and Commerce**. It has become the **Ministry of Industry and Commerce**.
- The **Ministry of Planning and Investment** has been integrated into the **Ministry of Finance**. It has become the **Ministry of Finance**.
- The **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment** has been integrated into the **Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry**. It has become the **Ministry of Agriculture and Environment**.
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs** has been consolidated into the **Central Party Executive Committee**.

As part of the government's comprehensive reform initiative, each ministry has undergone structural reorganization aimed at improving institutional efficiency, policy coherence, and administrative accountability.

This restructuring has included the dissolution of certain departments, the consolidation of overlapping functions, the reassignment of departments to new parent entities, and the establishment of newly mandated units.

As a result, the restructured ministries now operate under the following revised organizational frameworks:

• **Ministry of Industry and Commerce**

Pursuant to the structural reforms, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce shall comprise fourteen (14) departments and one (1) institute, as outlined below:

- (1) Office of the Ministry
- (2) Department of Organization and Personnel
- (3) Department of Inspection
- (4) Department of Policy, Development and Evaluation Plan
- (5) Department of Industry
- (6) Department of Energy
- (7) Department of Geological Resources and Mines
- (8) Department of International Negotiation and Cooperation
- (9) Department of Domestic Trade
- (10) Department of International Trade
- (11) Department of Intellectual Property
- (12) Department of Standardization and Metrology
- (13) Department of Enterprise Management
- (14) Department of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise Promotion
- (15) Industry and Energy Institute



• **Ministry of Finance**

Following the consolidation and restructuring measures, the Ministry of Finance shall consist of seventeen (17) departments or equivalent entities, one (1) national statistics center, and two (2) cooperation offices, as detailed below:

- (1) Cabinet of the Ministry
- (2) Department of Personnel
- (3) Department of State Inspection
- (4) Department of Budget
- (5) Department of Economic Policy and Finance
- (6) Department of Planning
- (7) Department of Evaluation and Procurement
- (8) Department of Cooperation and International Finance
- (9) Department of Tax
- (10) Department of Customs
- (11) National Treasury
- (12) Department of State Asset Management
- (13) Department of State-Owned Enterprise Development and Insurance
- (14) Department of State Reserve
- (15) Department of Accounting
- (16) Department of Financial Information Technology
- (17) Finance College
- (18) National Statistics Center
- (19) Lao-Vietnam Cooperation Committee Office
- (20) Lao-China Cooperation Committee Office



• Ministry of Agriculture and Environment

As a result of the ongoing governmental restructuring, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment shall comprise sixteen (16) departments, two (2) institutes, one (1) national committee, and nine (9) second-level technical units, as detailed below:

- (1) Office of the Ministry
- (2) Department of Organization and Personnel
- (3) Department of Inspection
- (4) Department of Planning and Cooperation
- (5) Department of Agricultural Extension and Cooperatives
- (6) Department of Agriculture
- (7) Department of Livestock and Fisheries
- (8) Department of Irrigation
- (9) Department of Forestry
- (10) Department of Agricultural Land Management
- (11) Department of Rural Development and Cooperatives
- (12) Department of Water Resources
- (13) Department of Natural Resources Inspection and Environment
- (14) Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
- (15) Department of Environment
- (16) Department of Environment and Climate Change
- (17) Institute of Agricultural Research, Forestry and Rural Development
- (18) Institute of Biotechnology and Ecology
- (19) Lao National Mekong Committee
- (20) Huay Son Agricultural Development and Service Center
- (21) Lao-China Agricultural Demonstration and Technical Service Center
- (22) Lao-Korea Rural Development Training Center
- (23) Environment Protection Fund
- (24) Northern Agriculture and Forestry College
- (25) Borikhamxay Agriculture and Forestry College
- (26) Agriculture and Forestry College of Savannakhet Province
- (27) Agriculture and Forestry College of Champasack Province
- (28) Thangon Irrigation College

• The Central Party Executive Committee

Following the consolidation and restructuring measures, the Central Party Executive Committee shall comprise eleven (11) departments and one (1) institute, as specified below:

- (1) Office of the Committee
- (2) Department of Organization and Personnel
- (3) Department of Inspection
- (4) Department of Party Establishment
- (5) Department of Party Organization
- (6) Department of Personnel Management
- (7) Department of Personnel Development
- (8) Department of State Agencies and Parastatal Management
- (9) Department of Local Administrative Management
- (10) Department of Competition and Recognition
- (11) Department of Administrative Development
- (12) National Academy of Politics and Public Administration

Conclusion

The recent government restructuring initiatives, endorsed through resolutions by both the Central Party Executive Committee and the National Assembly, underscore the Lao PDR's commitment to administrative reform. These measures mark a strategic effort to enhance institutional efficiency, strengthen policy coordination, and better align governmental structures with national development goals.

Further details will be announced in due course as part of the ongoing implementation process.



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