



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

National Taskforce Committee for
COVID-19 Prevention and Control

No. 031 / NTC
Vientiane Capital, 21 April 2020

**Guideline
on Conditions and Measures for Businesses
Permitted to Operate during COVID-19 Outbreak**

- Pursuant to Prime Minister's Order No. 06/PM, dated 29 March 2020, on Policies and Measures to Mitigate the Impact of COVID-19 on Lao Economy;
- Pursuant to Prime Minister Office's Notification, No. 481/PMO, dated 15 April 2020, on Extension and Supplemental Guideline on the Implementation of Prime Minister's Order No. 06/PM, dated 29 March 2020.

In order to mitigate the impact on the Lao economy against the extension on the implementation of Prime Minister's Order No. 06/PM while ensuring low risks of [new] COVID-19 infections,

**National Taskforce Committee for COVID-19 Prevention and Control
hereby sets the following conditions and measures:**

I. Conditions of businesses permitted to operate are as follows:

- 1) Have a designated area as a workplace, specifically project companies, companies and factories. For businesses that have a big workforce or pose a big risk of infection, [they shall] have sufficient dormitories within the designated area that satisfy standards for its employees and laborers, have an isolated quarantine area for individuals suspected of COVID-19 as well as have a vehicle to transport medical patients in case of an emergency;
- 2) Have a working space that is not crammed, ensuring at least 1m of distancing between individuals;
- 3) Have a dormitory that is not crammed, ensuring at least 1m of distancing between sleeping areas;
- 4) Have a canteen that is not crammed, ensuring sanitation, prohibiting sharing [cups, plates and cutlery] and allowing at least 1m of distancing between individuals when eating;

- 5) Have a vehicle to transport employees and laborers, ensuring at least 1m of distancing between individuals if dormitories are located away from the workplace.
- 6) Have sufficient amount of clean water throughout 24 hours [a day] and a wash basin, ensuring standards of hygiene by providing adequate soap, hand sanitizers and face masks to every employee and laborer;
- 7) Have security guards patrol throughout 24 hours [a day], prohibiting employees and laborers from leaving without an authorization as well as prohibiting outsiders from entering;
- 8) Have cleaners to properly dispose trash and waste that may cause infections [of COVID-19], such as ensuring trashcans that come with covers are placed at various points;
- 9) Ensure facilitation to medical teams to monitor or disseminate information in relation to COVID-19 from time to time, in the case of project companies, companies and factories.

II. Measures needed to be implemented by businesses permitted to operate are as follows:

- 1) Shall measure body temperature of and provide hand sanitizers for employees and laborers at entry-exit points for workplace, dormitory and canteen from morning to evening of each day, as well as record [health] conditions of each individual in a document. Where individuals are found to have fever symptoms (i.e. body temperature of over 37.5'c), cough or have respiratory difficulties, such individuals shall be promptly placed in an isolated quarantine area that is designated by that project company, company or factory, and a call shall be immediately placed to ask for advice from 166, 165 as well as to arrange an on-site checkup with a medical doctor;
- 2) Shall provide face masks to every employee and laborer throughout the hours that they work and spend time together at any location, while ensuring their access to an area where they can easily wash their hands;
- 3) Shall ensure (at least 1m of) distancing between employees and laborers, while prohibiting activities that cannot guarantee such distancing such as sports, parties and social gatherings;
- 4) Shall have strict measures in place to screen goods delivery drivers and outsiders, similar to those implemented on employees and laborers;
- 5) Shall clean employees and laborers' workplace, canteen, toilets, dormitories and product warehouse at the end of every day, in the case of project companies, companies and factories.
- 6) Temporarily suspend hiring new specialists, employees and laborers from foreign countries until the [COVID-19] outbreak can be contained.

III. Implementation:

- 1) Any project company, company or factory that can satisfy [all] 9 conditions and implement [all] 6 measures as aforementioned, upon the inspection and approval of the relevant unit of the National Taskforce Committee, must enter into an agreement or a memorandum with the National Taskforce Committee or any other authorized government agency. Project companies, companies and factories shall individually take full responsibility for any events of COVID-19 infections and be liable for any expenses that may occur within its place of business.
- 2) Project companies, companies or factories that are permitted to operate but do not adhere to the aforementioned measures shall be given a warning. In the event without prompt rectification of such behaviors, their businesses shall be subject to suspension or a penalty fine, and proceedings shall be brought [against them] in accordance to the laws and regulations of Lao PDR.
- 3) This Guidance shall be implemented upon the date of signature until further notice.

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance
Head of National Taskforce Committee

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