

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity and Prosperity

**Resolution
Of
The National Conference of Education Administrators 2007
Presented by Mr. Lytou BOUAPAO Vice Minister of Ministry of Education**

Based on the Ministerial Decree of the Minister of Education No 823/MOE/07, dated 11/05/07 the National Conference of Education Administrators for 2007 opened from 23-27 July (7) 2007 at the Xiengkhouang Provincial Meeting Hall under the chairmanship of Professor Dr. Somkot Mangnomek, Member of the Party Central Committee and Minister of Education. As Governor-In-Charge of Xiengkhouang Province, Mr. Viengthanom Phommachanh also participated in the Conference as a guest of honour, and he extended a warm welcome to all participants.

Participating in the Conference were 120 representatives (12 of whom were women) from different organizations as follows: 39 from MOE, 8 from line ministries and government agencies, 7 from MoE Printing Enterprise, MoE factories and Mass Organisations, 17 from Provincial Education Services (PES), 9 from teacher training colleges, 3 from Cultural Attaché Offices, and 37 from Xiengkhouang Provincial departments and District Educational Bureaus.

The National Conference of Education Administrators 2007 expressed its honor and gratitude to have the opportunity to welcome Mr. Bouasone Bouphavanh, Politbureau Member of the Party Central Committee, Prime Minister of Lao PDR and for dedicating his valuable time to participate in the Conference and give his views on the National Education System Reform, which has become a concrete vision and provides legal obligations for education administrators in planning the immediate and long term educational development in Lao PDR. His participation and advice reflected great attention, concern, encouragement and motivation received by education administrators, staff, teachers and students across the education sector from the Polit-Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

After listening to the annual report of 2007 and the 2008 plan, the Conference had a constructive discussion and exchange of views on different issues, and came out with a consensus approval on both the report and the plan. The Conference also listened to presentations on lessons learned from different basic education development projects including:

1. Education Development Project 2
2. Education System Reform Strategy (National Education System Reform Project, Teacher Status and Administrators Improvement Project, Access to Education and Quality Improvement Project, and Vocational-Technical School Expansion Project)
3. Lessons learnt from the implementation of DDA Project
4. Basic Education Development Plan
5. Graduate/postgraduate and Higher Education Plan
6. EFA Mid-Decade Assessment Report
7. Non-formal Education Development Strategy
8. Vocational-Technical Education Action Plan
9. Report on Education Inspection Plan
10. Education Management
11. Standards of Model DES and PES
12. Vientiane Declaration on Effective ODA Planning and Management
13. Report on Education Budgeting.

The Conference also discussed issues on education administration and management, teacher quality, allocation of teachers for remote areas, literacy, education quality improvement and basic skills, and other related topics such as drug abuse, leaving examinations and selection of students, National Teacher's Fund, Education Staff uniforms, and Friend Helps Friend Modeling.

Special attention was paid to observation and evaluation of constraints of the lack of teachers in primary schools in remote ethnic areas, unqualified teachers in lower and

upper secondary schools, teacher qualification upgrading, unachieved literacy targets, lack of textbooks, dropouts and repetitions, and others.

The Conference unanimously approved the Prime Minister's Advice for further action in detailed planning and legal obligations.

The Conference observed and evaluated in a constructive manner the past achievements, shortcomings and constraints and unanimously agreed upon the resolution for the effective implementation of the 2007-2008 Education Plan as follows:

1. To provide adequate numbers of teachers to remote areas of special focus by alternative appropriate means;
2. To take appropriate measures to create favourable conditions to increase the rates of enrolment and reduce the rates of repetition and dropouts by 1-2% ;
3. To provide training to upgrade administrators in their management skills, especially Directors of DES, school principals and teachers with different forms and approaches such as on-the-job training, training during weekends, training during vacations and long-term training. In the meantime, surveys on the actual number of teachers teaching at different levels must be conducted and reported back to MoE on 5-7 /08/2007;
4. To develop a proper plan to conduct intensive literacy and primary upgrading courses for target people. At the same time, the development of Non-Formal Education Strategy must be completed for use in due course;
5. To propose to the Government to consider the issuance of a Prime Minister's Decree on the establishment of an Education Development Committee at provincial, district and village levels;
6. To print and provide sufficient number of textbooks for formal and non-formal schools, especially in the 45 poorest districts;
7. It is recommended that model schools of different levels be established in each province and Capital City. In this context, each district must have at least 1 pre-school and 1 primary school, 1-3 lower secondary schools and 1 upper secondary

- school. In addition, the physics, biology and chemistry labs must also be established, particularly areas where there is greatest potential.
8. Education administrators at all levels must conduct their inspection and monitoring activities and report them in a regular, continuous and timely manner. They must also organize political and ideological training for general staff, teachers, pupils and students and take measures to deal with issues that can adversely affect the education sector.
 9. To apply the lessons drawn from the Conference such as disseminating lessons from Vientiane Province in mobilizing the local Party Committee, authorities and communities participation in education development nationwide.
 10. To mobilize authorities and the general public to pay closer attention to implementing the teacher incentive policy as well as regularly report the progress of operating the Teacher's Welfare Fund.
 11. To do budget planning on the basis of minimum requirements by unit costing per student at all levels and systems and reinforce the budget management mechanism of the sector in accordance with the Vientiane Declaration;
 12. To accomplish the strengthening of the education sector organizational structure both at central and local levels;
 13. To reinforce examination regulations, for example in transparency and measures in selecting students to continue their studies at tertiary level in order to assure quality and to deal with issues that can adversely affect the selection process and examinations;
 14. To approve the practice of automatic progression as a pilot program in some provinces by allocating qualified and experienced teachers to teach primary grades 1 and 2
 15. To formulate legal documents related to education sector development; and
 16. To disseminate and advocate the Education Law to the public at large.

The Conference expressed its deep gratitude and sincere thanks to the Party Leaders, Xiengkhouang Province Authority, civil servants, Army and Security forces, and people for their warm welcome and hospitality as well as for creating favourable conditions for the success of the Conference.

The Conference called upon education administrators at all levels, professors, teachers and students nationwide to undertake their tasks and duties with a high sense of responsibility and to actively participate in the National Education Sector Reform Process. The Conference also appealed to the Party Committee Members at all levels, public and private agencies, communities and Lao expatriates living overseas to provide financial support to education development to meet the needs of all the people of Lao PDR.

Muang Pek, Xiengkhouang Province 27 July 2007
The National Conference of Education Administrators 2007