

The Education Quality Assurance in Lao PDR: History, Current and Future developments

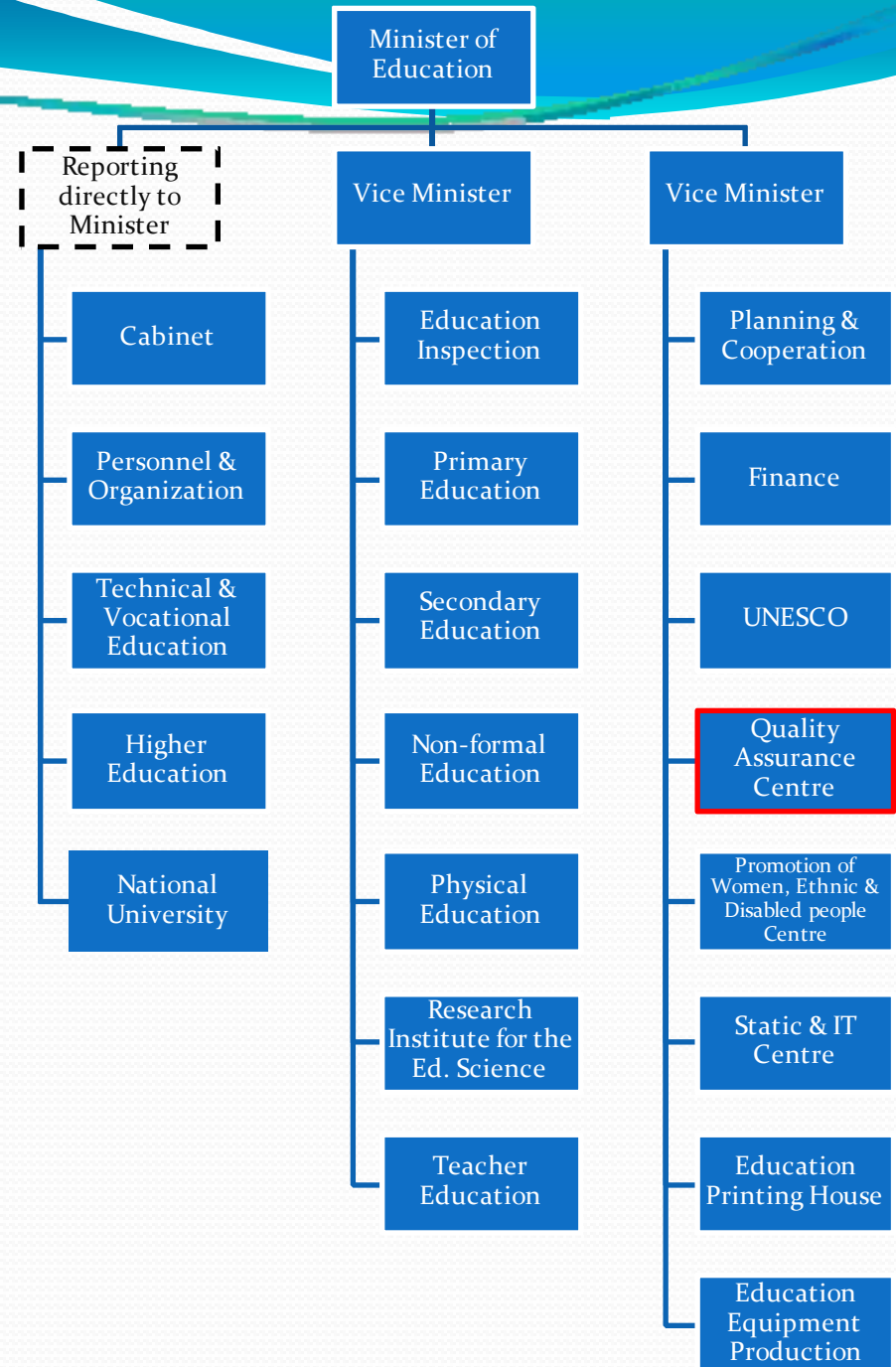
Report for visiting Thailand and Malaysia's Agencies
During 17-19 August and 24-26 August 2009

Education Standard and Quality Assurance Centre (ESQAC)
Ministry of Education, Lao PDR

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1. Overview of Educational governance system



2. Data of Education system

Primary (5 year)

- School: 9,000
- Class: 30,000
- Student: 900,000

Lower Secondary (3 year)

- School: 1,000
- Class: 5,700
- Student: 260,000

Upper Secondary (3 year)

- School: 400
- Class: 3,000
- Student: 160,000

Vocational school (2-3 year)

- School: 40 (private 10)
- Middle diploma Pro.: 50
- Student: 15,000

College (3-5 year)

- School: 100 (private 80)
- Bachelors Program: 40
- Higher diploma Pro.: 100
- Student: 35,000 (12,000Bs)

University (4-5 year)

- School: 5
- Bachelors Program: 60
- Higher diploma Pro.: 15
- Student: 65,000 (42,000Bs)

- From 2008 statistic, rounded for overview (Excluded Teacher Training program)
- From 2009, basic education system is reformed to 5+4+3

3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

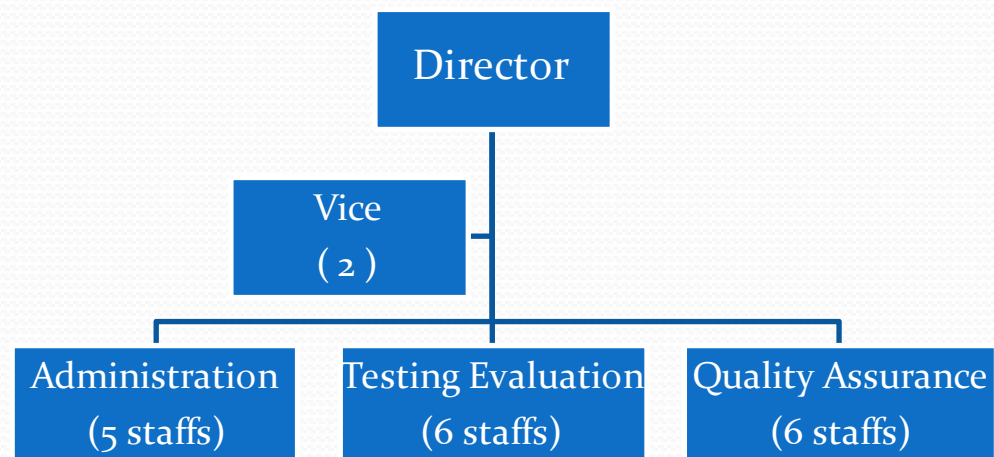
3.1 Background and History

- Until 2008, there are no QA body
- Ministry monitor, evaluate in general
- With highly attention by public opinion about Quality of education
- With strongly supporting from government about Quality issue
- 2008 April, the “Education Standard and Quality Assurance Centre” Established under Ministry of Education

3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

3.2 Structure and mission

- At present only 8 staffs.
- However, MOE has committed about new 4 staffs for next fiscal year.
- Around 25 staffs will be appointed to the centre.
- There are the QA network by 7 staffs for each province (they are belong to provincial education department or district education office)



3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

3.2 Structure and mission (Cont.)

- ESQAC play 2 roles such as “Quality Assurance” and “Testing”
- The function on Quality Assurance issue
 - Develop the Standard, Indicators and whole legal issue related to QA
 - Develop the Tools for quality assessment
 - Develop the Criterion and method to assessment the education quality
 - Implement the External Quality Assessment
 - Etc..
- The function on Testing issue
 - Develop the Structure and Standard of Examination (Leaving exam for basic education and Entrance exam for public higher education institution)
 - Develop the exam item bank
 - Promote the educational competition
 - Etc..

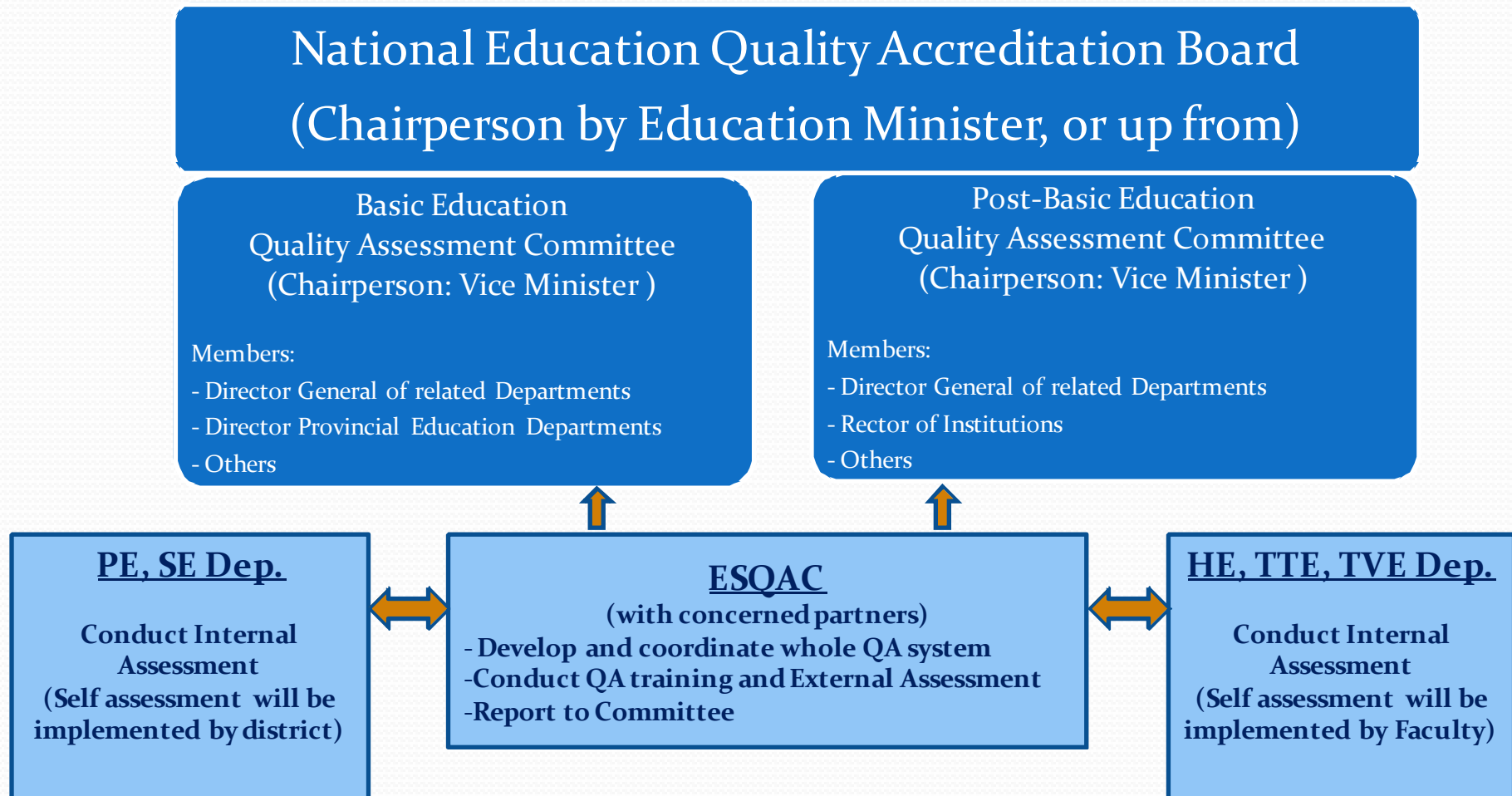
3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

3.2 Structure and mission (Cont.)

- Others department (Primary Education, Secondary Education, Vocational Education, Higher Education, Teacher Education and etc..) play a role as parent organization of institutions to implement internal QA.
- External assessment hold by the ESQAC as coordinator for external assessors.
- Accreditation body is under discussion to be setup as a board or commission. ESQAC will take a role as secretariat on the implementation and management, etc.

3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

3.3 Proposed Accreditation board



3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

3.4 Some Lao PDR QA document

- Education Quality Assurance from 2008-2015 (Approved)
- National Quality Standard for Basic Education (Finished Drafting)
- National Quality Standard for Higher Education (Finished Drafting)
- Manual for Education Quality Assurance (Drafting), Explanation about whole QA system
- Manual for Education Quality Assessment and Accreditation (Drafting), Explanation about how to implement and its cycle

3. Overview of Quality Assurance System in Lao PDR

3.5 Next Step on QA in Lao PDR

- For QA:
 - Develop all education framework national standard (meeting, discussing with concerned units to get unified understanding and approval)
 - Publish the all documents and manual (step by step)
 - Set the seminar about QA system, several times
 - Set the training about Internal Assessment and QA reporting
- For Testing evaluation:
 - Develop examination structure and standard
 - Develop exam item bank
 - Implement student archives assessment
 - Promote educational competition for primary and lower secondary (upper secondary level already set up for 20 year)

4. The Expected Regional and International Cooperation

- For QA issue
 - Capacity building for internal and external QA staff
 - Training for QA staffs and assessors
 - Join research on QA

- For Testing issue
 - Item bank development
 - Training teachers for educational competition

5. Some progress on QA cooperation

- **First Introduced Lao PDR's QA,**
 - at the “Annual Roundtable meeting of The ASEAN Quality Assessment network (AQAN) 2009”
 - Bangkok 20-22 March, 2009
- **Cooperation MOU signed with MOET Vietnam**
 - at “The 2nd ASEM Ministerial Meeting on Education (ASEMME2)”
 - Hanoi, 14-15 May, 2009
- **Discussed about the cooperation plan with MQA**
 - at the “Malaysia-Lao PDR Workshop on Higher Education and Development Human Capital: Towards Strategic Partnerships and Alliances”
 - Vientiane, 10-11 August, 2009

5. Some progress on QA cooperation (cont.)

- **Visit study to Thailand**

- ONESQA (Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment)
- Bureau of Educational Testing , OBEC (Office of the Basic Education Commission), Ministry of Education
- NIETS (National Institute for Educational Testing Services), (working about O-NET, GAT, PAT)
- Bangkok, 16-19 August, 2009

- **Visit study to Malaysia**

- MQA (Malaysia Qualification Agency)
- MES (Malaysia Examinations Syndicate)
- Kuala-Lumpur, 23-26 August, 2009

Thank you
very much
for
your warm
hospitality

