Sabaidee
Welcome to Lao PDR

Workshop on the Disposal of Intellectual Property Infringing Goods
Bangkok, Thailand November 21-22, 2013

Country Report

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LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRAIC REPUBLIC

General information

- Lao PDR is a small landlocked country in south east Asia and sharing border with five countries: China to the north, Cambodia to the south, Vietnam to the east and Myanmar and Thailand to the west.

- Capital: Vientiane.
- Area: 236,800 Km²
- Population: 6,5 million
- Population density: 24 person/ Km²
- Geography: 2\3 is mountain

The Situation of Intellectual Of Infringing goods in Lao PDR

Sector	Sources	Types of Intellectual of infringing goods
Households	-	Shampoo, Dishwashing Liquid, Washing powder, Cosmetic, Tissue, toothpaste, cigarette. Etc.
Hospitals or Clinics	-	-
Agriculture	-	-
Industry & mining	-	-

Legal Framework

- Intellectual Property Law has been issued in 2007 (revised in Dec. 2011 to comply with TRIPs agreement);
- Custom Law has been issued in 2005;
- Environmental Protection Law has been issued in 1999 (revised in Dec.2012); and
- Relevant regulations.

The System of IPR Enforcement in Laos

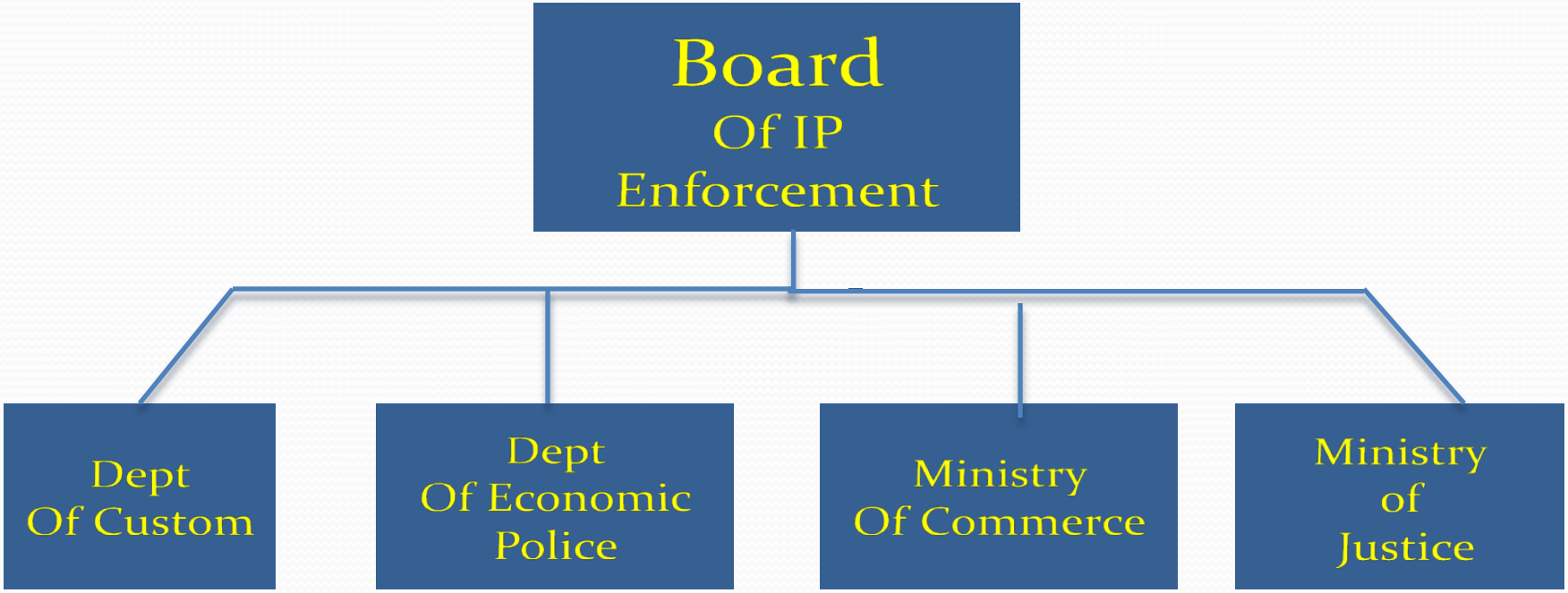
- - DIP is the focal point for coordinating with Board of line Ministries to deal with IPR enforcement, The main duties of line Ministries are as following:
- - Department of Custom under the Ministry of Finance to suppress the fraudulence of goods and piracy products at the border followed the notice for relevant case from our Board of line Ministries

- Department of Economic Police under Ministry of Public Security to suppress illegal trade and seize of counterfeit and piracy products followed the notice of IP Board
- Chamber of trade and industry to look for promotion of Environmentally Safe Disposal of Intellectual Property Infringing Goods .

DIP under Ministry of Science & Technology to arrange administration measure by mediation also to be the focal point for all Intellectual Property management including Environmentally Safe Disposal of Intellectual Property Infringing Goods

In some cases that we could not solve by our Board, we have to take legal action to the Prosecutor Office and the Prosecutor Office will report the overall context of relevant cases to the Court for final judgment.

Organization Chart of the Board IP Enforcement

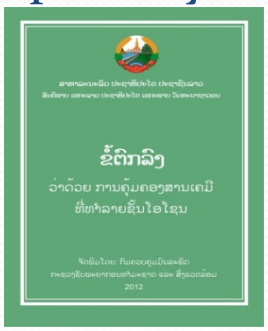


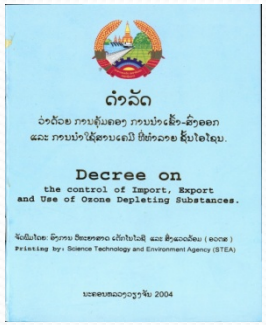
Disposal of ozone depleting substances (ODS) , harmful substances and Hazardous Waste

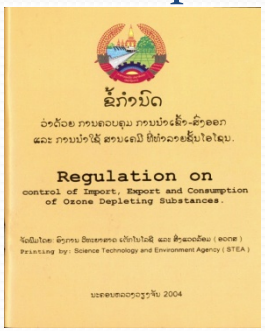
- Environmental Protection Law has been issued in 1999 (revised in Dec.2012)

- **ODS**

- ✓ The provisions set forth under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer shall be controls the import, manufacture, use, sale and export of bulk chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) from Air conditioning, refrigeration or equipment that contains an ODS.
- ✓ Currently, Laos does not have disposal system and alternate disposal method.







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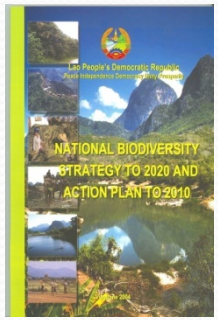
- **<u>Harmful substances and Hazardous Waste</u>**

- ✓ Harmful substances and Hazardous Waste from Household, Electronic and electronic equipments, Hospital , Agriculture , industrials shall be conducted in accordance with the waste management regulation under Ministry of Public Work and Transportation to ensure that all hazardous waste is properly and safely managed;
- ✓ Drafting a specific Hazardous waste management and Hazardous Chemical management.



Disposal of ozone depleting substances (ODS) , harmful substances and Hazardous Waste

- Hazardous waste from Hospitals/clinics Disposal

Mini incinerator in urban center of capital city

Destroy of some counterfeit and Piracy Products in Vientiane Capital

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Problem of Disposal of ozone depleting substances (ODS) , harmful substances and Hazardous Waste

- Government tools (Law & Regulation);
- Develop Hazardous waste country profile;
- Lack knowledge, experience, technical;
- Human resources development;
- Information system of toxic chemical, material system data sheet (MSDS);
- Contributing and participating actively into protecting natural resources.

- The future direction of the Environmentally Safe Disposal of Intellectual Property Infringing Goods in Lao PDR.

  Environmentally Safe Disposal of Intellectual Property Infringing Goods system should be effective in place

  - Economic Rights and Moral Rights should be protected strictly by law
  - Public awareness should be done continuously
  - Improvement of IP curriculum system for education
  - Establishing of Collective Management is necessary.
  - Setting up effective enforcement and judiciary system
  - Business practices concerned should be controlled by the government

- Conclusion

One of our priority duties is to develop IP as well as Environmentally Safe Disposal of Intellectual Property Infringing Goods system because we wish to speed up our economic, scientific and technical development.

Lao PDR hopefully requires more assistance and exchange of experiences from developed and developing countries as well as all International Organizations so as to identify how to achieve with this matter.

Khop Jai
Thank you