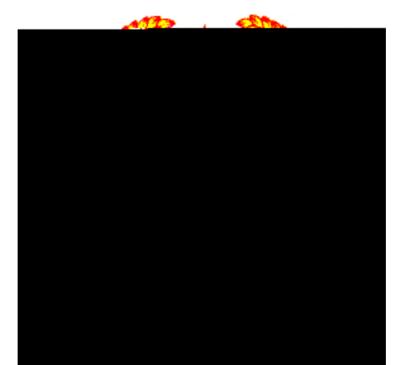
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY



LAW ON LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND VETERINARY MATTERS

TRANSLATION

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Structure of the Law

Chapter I:	General Provisions
Chapter II:	Livestock Production
Section 1:	Livestock Production Activities
Section 2:	Livestock Production Business
Section 3:	Livestock Production Promotion
Chapter III:	Veterinary Matters
Section 1	: Veterinary Activities

Draft Law on Livestock Production and Veterinary Matters: Table of Contents

Chapter I: General Provisions		7
Article	1: Objectives	7
Article	2: Livestock Production	7
Article	3: Animal Health Protection	7
Article	4: Definitions	8
Article	5: Government Policies on Livestock Production and Veterinary Activities	9
Article	6: Principles of Livestock Pr	

Chapter III:	Veterinary Matters	17
Section 1:	Veterinary Activities	17
Article 34	: Veterinary Activities	17
Article 35	: Prevention and Control of Epidemic Diseases of Animals	17
Article 36	: Surveillance and Monitoring of Epidemic Diseases of Animals	17
Article 37	: Vaccination and Treatment	18
Article 38	: Strategic Planning to Contain and Eradicate Epidemic Diseases of Animals	18
Article 39	: Control Measures for Epidemic Diseases of Animals	18
Article 40	: Compulsory Notification of Diseases	18
Article 41	: Notification of Animals Suspected of Epidemic Disease Infection	19
Article 42	: Reporting of Epidemic Diseases	19
Article 43	: Declaration of Epidemic Zones	19
Article 44	: Operations during an Outbreak	19
Article 45	: Movement Control of Animals and Animal Commodities, and Quarantine	19
Article 46	: Domestic Movements of Animals and Animal Commodities	20
Article 47	: International Movements of Animals and Animal Commodities	20
Article 48	: Temporary Seizures of Animal Commodities and Animal Quarantine	20
Article 49	: Supervision of Animal Slaughter & Inspection of Meat and Animal Products	20
Article 50	: Slaughterhouses and Slaughter Points	20
Article 51	: Animal Slaughter and Dressing	21
Article 52	: Meat and Animal Products Inspection	21
Article 53	: Zoo-Sanitary Certification of Animal Products	21
Article 54	: Storage, Processing, Trade and Transportation of Animal Products	21
Section 2: Ve	terinary Business	22
Article 55	: Veterinary Business	22
Article 56	: Licensing of Veterinary Businesses	22
Article 57	: Animal Treatment Service	22
Article 58	: Production of Vaccines and Medicines	22
Article 59	: Sale of Animal Vaccines, Medicines and Veterinary Equipment	22
Article 60	: Animal Disease Analysis	23
Article 61	: Establishment of Veterinary Professional Schools	23
Article 62	: The Production of Animal Disease Documentaries	23

Chapter IV:	Rights, Duties and Obligations of Entrepreneurs and Consumers	24
Section 1:	Rights, Duties and Obligations of Livestock Production Entrepreneurs	24
Article 66: Rights and Duties of Livestock Production Entrepreneurs		24
Article 6	7: Obligations of Livestock Production Entrepreneurs	24
Section 2: F	Lights, Duties and Obligations of Veterinary Entrepreneurs	25
Article 68: Rights and Duties of Veterinary Entrepreneurs		25
Article 6	9: Obligations of Veterinary Entrepreneurs	25

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Lao People's Democratic Republic Peace Independence Unity Democracy Prosperity

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National Assembly

No_03_/NA Vientiane Capital, date: 25 July 2008

"Draft" LAW ON LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND VETERINARY MATTERS

Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1: Objectives

The Law on Livestock Production and Veterinary Matters defines the principles, rules and regulations related to the organization, management and inspection of livestock production and veterinary activities in order to boost, promote and develop the nation's potential in animal production and related livestock resources. *Its objectives are*: to help to guarantee food security and ensure standards to safeguard consumers; to create the conditions necessary for the growth and development of the animal product processing industry; to participate and contribute to strong social and economic development (i.e. National Development); to help to create a better quality of life for the people of Lao PDR; and to ensure sustainable environmental protection.

Article 2: Livestock Production

Livestock Production is the process of raising animals in appropriate locations under proper administration and management, while developing and improving breeding/parent stock by providing enough feed and water in quantity and quality in order to maintain the animals in good health and by correct breeding. Proper husbandry practices will also <u>ensure adequate</u> <u>reproduction</u> in order to respond to domestic demand and commercial production for export without negative impacts on society or the environment.

Article 3: Animal Health Protection

Animal health protection is the care and protection of animal health and a means of combating animal disease i.e. prevention, surveillance, control and eradication of infectious animal diseases and treatment of sick or injured animals. The veterinary field also includes the management and control of commercial animal products in order to guarantee the safety of the consumer and protection of the environment.

page 8

21. Veterinary inspector

Section 1 Livestock Production Activities

Article 8: Livestock Production Activities

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The importation and exportation of animals and animal samples, such as carcasses or any part of a carcass or samples, for scientific research and study shall be granted a permit by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The outcomes of scientific research and studies should be reported to the organizations concerned by the person responsible.

Article 12: Development of Livestock Production Systems

The development of livestock production systems is the development of an integrated system of animal husbandry processes comprising: conservation and preservation of local/indigenous animal breed genetic material, improvement, development and conservation of animal breed genetic material, the development of animal feed, and effective methods and techniques of management in the field of livestock production.

Individuals, families and organizations can improve and multiply animal genetic material and produce various kinds of animal feed. They are encouraged to shift from natural based animal husbandry systemsf0 -1.14d9(h)-1.**TI**9.h3i231(n)3.ft-f7r20 -8d1.h3i231nsy.2(ductiry)-5.5(m0.6

Article 20: Animal Feed Production

Individuals, families or entities that intend to conduct business involved in animal feed production must comply with the technical standards relating to premises, feed production

Individuals, families or entities intending to conduct business on animal trade, meat distribution, animal product processing and animal trade fairs shall comply with the technical standards and laws in order to avoid negative impacts on <u>consumers</u>, society and the environment.

Article 26: Establishment of Animal Husbandry Vocational Schools

Individuals, families or entities proposing to operate a business establishing animal husbandry professional schools shall comply with the regulations and curricula adopted by the sectors concerned so as to better develop qualified human resources to respond to the needs of animal husbandry development during various times.

Article 27: Production of Animal Husbandry Documentaries

Individuals, families or entities intending to conduct business involving the production of documentaries on animal production techniques or results of experiments shall receive prior approval from the Agriculture and Forestry Sector and authorization from other sectors concerned.

Section 3 Livestock Production Promotion

Article 28: Livestock Production Promotion

With supportive policies on investment, techniques, ICT, marketing and other incentives to effectively expand livestock production, the State will promote both domestic and foreign individuals, families and entities to raise different types of animal with diversified approaches and systems. These will includek(n)3 6sri

In cases in which disease outbreaks and official notification is made for the culling and destruction of animals for the purpose of containing outbreaks, the State has pledged reasonable compensation schemes.

The State will promote the establishment of various revolving funds to support the production of different animal species. Contributions will be made by the government, individuals, domestic and international organizations.

Article 30: Land Management and Land Use for Livestock Production

The State will appropriately manage and promote individuals, families, and entities within their own capacity to use, lease or concede land for different types of livestock production according to intended target uses and the potentials of different regions. Such activities shall pose no negative impacts to the natural resources or society and will support livestock production by following the laws and regulations.

Article 31: Animal Breeding Promotion

The State will support and promote individuals, families and entities to undertake the production and expansion of animal breeds, such as pure breeds, cross breeds and indigenous breeds, which grow and reproduce well. In this regard, the State has issued supportive policies such as facilitating the importation of materials, equipment and parent stock; provision of credits; and tax exemptions for public livestock breeding improvement centers, stations and entrepreneurs in accordance with the laws and regulations.

Article 32: Technical, Scientific and Technological Promotion

<u>The State supports</u> both domestic and foreign individuals, families and entities that have invested or contributed to livestock production development in terms of technical assistance and transfer of advanced technology on livestock production, training, seminars, study tours, and the provision of technical staff for on-the-job training for the purposes of the industrialization and modernization of livestock production activities.

Article 33: Information Access and Marketing Promotion

The State will support individuals, families and entities that undertake livestock production as a profession by providing information on livestock production and marketing including animal husbandry techniques, animal breeding, national and international quality and standards of livestock production, animal demand, and fluctuation of animal prices within and outside the country.

> Chapter III Veterinary Matters

Section 1 Veterinary Activities

page 16

Article 34: Veterinary Activities

Veterinary activities include all functions related to veterinary management and service including:

- 1. Prevention and control of epidemic diseases of animals;
- 2. Control of animal movements, animal commodities, and the temporary confinement and quarantine of animals;

3.

The local authority or government declares or revokes epidemic zones as proposed by the Livestock and Veterinary Management Authority by the following:

- 1. If the outbreak occurs within one district or municipality, the chief of the district or mayor of the municipality declares the epidemic zone;
- 2. If the outbreak occurs in more than one district or municipality, but within one province or municipality, the governor and mayor of the municipality will make the declaration;
- 3. If the outbreak occurs in more than one province, the prime minister will make the declaration.

Article 44: Operations during an Outbreak

The Livestock and Veterinary Management Authorities shall undertake investigations of animals in epidemic zones to determine the disease causing the outbreak.

If an epidemic disease is found, appropriate control measures shall be taken in order to halt the spread of the disease.

Additionally, necessary vaccination for healthy animals must still be carried out, and disinfection of farm areas, housing and equipment must be performed in accordance with veterinary technical guidelines.

Article 45: Movement Control of Animals and Animal Commodities, and Quarantine

Control of the movement of animals and animal commodities and quarantine of animals includes:

- 1. Domestic movements of animals and animal commodities;
- 2. International movements of animals and animal commodities;
- 3. Temporary seizures of animal commodities and animal quarantine;

Article 46: Domestic Movements of Animals and Animal Commodities

Domestic movements of animals and animal commodities from one place to another shall comply with the specific regulations of the Livestock and Veterinary Management Authority.

Article 47: International Movements of Animals and Animal Commodities

International movements of animals and animal commodities, import, export and transit via

- 1. Detain and confine the animal to allow rest; provide feed and water to the animal if necessary, and isolate it in the specific areas prepared for inspection and surveillance;
- 2. Confiscate and detain the animal commodities in the areas specifically prepared for inspection;
- 3.

Procedures for zoosanitary inspection of meat and animal products have been prescribed in specific regulations *and other related laws*.

Article 53: Zoo-Sanitary Certification of Animal Products

Meat and animal products to be distributed or consumed shall be inspected, sealed and certified for hygiene by meat inspectors.

If the meat and animal products are not suitable for consumption, they shall not be permitted to be distributed, bought or sold, or stored. Instead, such meat and animal products shall be disposed of under the strict management and supervision of a veterinarian or meat inspector. The disposal of meat and animal products has been prescribed in specific regulations.

If the meat and animal products will be used for other purposes, they shall comply with prescribed criteria and sanitary principles.

Article 54: Storage, Processing, Trade and Transportation of Animal Products

Facilities for storing, processing and selling

Article 57: Animal Treatment Service

In order to secure quality prevention and treatment services, individuals, families and entities who intend to conduct business in veterinary clinics or animal treatment areas providing prevention and treatment services shall comply with technical standards on locations, personnel and services as prescribed by the Agriculture and Forestry Sector and other sectors concerned.

Article 58: Production of Vaccines and Medicines

In order to secure quality vaccines and appropriate treatment services and to avoid negative socio-environmental impacts, individuals, families and entities who intend to conduct business involving the production of vaccines and drugs shall comply with technical standards on location, *personnel*, manufacturing systems, and production systems for vaccines and drugs, raw materials storage, quality inspection for vaccines and drugs as prescribed by the Agriculture and Forestry Sector and other sectors concerned.

Article 59: Sale of Animal Vaccines, Medicines and Veterinary Equipment

Individuals, families or entities who intend to conduct business which involves the sale, import or export of vaccines, medicines and veterinary equipment shall comply with the *technical standards on location, personnel and storage facilities* and cooperate with authorities concerned for reporting, monitoring or collecting of samples of vaccines and medicines for analysis.

Article 60: Animal Disease Analysis

Section 3 Veterinary Service Promotion

Article 63: Veterinary Service Promotion

The State promotes both domestic and foreign individuals, families and entities to undertake veterinary business activities as referred to in the law with incentive policies such as investment, technical assistance, information access, and the establishment of veterinary associations aimed at the improvement of quality veterinary services.

Article 64: Investment Promotion

The State promotes domestic and foreign individuals, families and entities to invest or contribute funds towards the development of veterinary services through private and joint-venture investments as prescribed by the law.

The State promotes the establishment of funds to support the effectiveness of veterinary service activities. Funds are derived from government contributions, individuals, and domestic and foreign organizations.

Article 65: Technical Support and Information Access

The State promotes domestic and foreign individuals, families or entities to invest or contribute to the areas of veterinary business by providing technical advice, on-the-job training, information access, advanced technology transfer, prevention and treatment through training, seminars, study tours, etc..

Chapter IV: Rights, Duties and Obligations of Entrepreneurs and Consumers

Section 1 Rights, Duties and Obligations of Livestock Production Entrepreneurs

Article 66: Rights and Duties of Livestock Production Entrepreneurs

Individuals, families or entities engaged in

- 2. To have production protected in forms of compensation and other means as prescribed in the law;
- 3. To be assisted or provided with technical or technological advice on animal production;
- 4. To be eligible for tax exemption or reduction for the importation of animal breeding stock, feed, necessary equipment, export of animal and animal products as prescribed in the law;
- 5. To be supported and promoted regarding credits and markets, including fair prices;
- 6. To operate and undertake business in accordance with the law;
- 7. To participate in the activities of livestock producer associations as appropriately specified by the association.

Article 67: Obligations of Entrepreneurs

Livestock production entrepreneurs have the following primary duties:

- 4. To be assisted and supported and technically and technologically advised on veterinary practices;
- 5. To be eligible for tax exemptions or reductions for the importation and exportation of chemical substances, drugs necessary for prevention and treatment, and necessary equipment as provided by the law;
- 6. To ensure that construction, installation of devices and materials for the operation comply with the regulations of the sectors concerned;
- 7. To carry out veterinary activities in accordance with permitted techniques and scope;
- 8. To participate in the activities of veterinary associations as appropriately specified by the association.

Article 69: Obligations of

Chapter V

Prohibitions

Article 72: General Prohibitions

Individuals, families and other entities are prohibited from committing the following:

- 1. Any action <u>that may lead to epidemic disease of animals or that, by the use of hazardous</u> <u>chemicals</u>, will have adverse impacts on the health of animals and humans, society, the economy and the environment;
- 2. Movement, import, export and transport of animals and animal commodities that are not in compliance with the laws and regulations, including any attempts at forging animal-related documents;
- 3. Illegal trade in animals and animal commodities;
- 4. Killing, slaughtering or consuming animals, sick or dead from unknown causes, or those affected by epidemic diseases or containing <u>highly persistent organic pollutants</u> (POP);
- 5. Dumping of carcasses or parts of dead animals in public places, the environment, or other areas;
- 6. Killing or slaughtering pregnant animals, particularly draught animals or those in the breeding period;
- 7. Bribing of veterinary officers or veterinary inspectors;
- 8. Threatening, delaying or impeding the performance of the Livestock and Veterinary Management Authority;
- 9. Tormenting animals or other actions which violate the laws on livestock production and veterinary matters;
- 10. <u>Raising animals in community areas, municipal towns or in areas not designated for animal production;</u>
- 11. Allowing free-roaming animals in community areas, municipal towns and along highways;
- 12. Distribution or concealment of infected or suspected animals or animal products.

Article 73: Prohibitions for Livestock and Veterinary Officers and Veterinary Inspectors

In addition to the prohibitions identified in Article 72 of this law, the following are prohibited for livestock and veterinary officers and veterinary inspectors:

- 1. Misuse of his/her rights and position; use of violence, force or threat, and bribes that may lead to damages to public, collective and individual interests caused by veterinary and livestock activities;
- 2. Disclosure of public or official confidential items; delay or falsification of documents; acting irresponsibly in the given tasks on livestock and veterinary activities.

Chapter VI Conflict Resolution

Article 74: Conflict Resolution Principles

Conflict resolution on livestock and veterinary practice shall comply with general principles of administrative and civil conflict resolution on the basis of compromise.

Article 75: Forms of Conflict Resolution

Conflicts relating to livestock and veterinary practice shall be resolved according to the following:

- 1. <u>*Resolution*</u> by consultation and compromise with the village authority;
- 2. Administrative resolution by the Livestock and Veterinary Management Authorities;
- 3. Resolution by the Economic Conflict Resolution Committee;
- 4. Resolution by the People's Court.

Article 76: International Conflict Resolution

Resolution of conflicts on livestock and veterinary practices that are international in nature shall be based on the contract and treaties to which Lao PDR is a party and <u>related international</u> regulations.

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- 3. To manage and carry out the registration of animals according to the defined rules and regulations;
- 4. To resolve conflicts, make recommendations on livestock production and veterinary investment to the Provincial/City Agriculture and Forestry Office for consideration;
- 5. To monitor, assist and lead the implementation of village livestock production and veterinary units;
- 6. To coordinate with local administrative authorities, livestock producer and veterinary Associations in the District/Municipality and other concerned sectors in order to implement works (in the animal husbandry and veterinary fields) that are under their responsibility;
- 7. To produce regular reports on the results of the implementation of livestock production and veterinary activities to the province/municipality Agriculture and Forestry Office and district/municipal Governor.

Article 81: Rights and Duties of Village Livestock and Veterinary Units

The main rights and duties of village livestock and veterinary units include the following:

- 1. To coordinate with *village administration authorities* and livestock or veterinary officers to disseminate livestock and veterinary regulations; organize and to implement animal registration and provide vaccines regularly and in a timely manner, and provide assistance toward containing the spread of epidemics of livestock diseases in the village;
- 2. To carry out health inspections, inspect for diseases, provide realisement animal system on the requested by animal owners or entrepreneurs;
- 3. <u>To participate</u> periodically in meetings, seminars and trainings to improve technical knowledge on livestock and veterinary practices;
- 4. To participate in the arbitration of animal and veterinary issues a4.1(a(ly)TJg2o).2a4(on)5.1(d

The Veterinary Association is a voluntarily established organization of veterinarians under the agreement of the Livestock and Veterinary Management Authority. The association is established for the benefit of veterinary entrepreneurs, the association, and society.

The implementation and functions of the Veterinary Association are prescribed by specific laws.

Section 2 Inspection

Article 84: Objectives of Livestock and Veterinary Inspection

Livestock and veterinary inspections include monitoring and inspection activities by the inspection authorities to ensure the performance of organizations, staff, officers and individual persons including those engaged in livestock production and veterinary businesses. The purpose of the inspections is to ensure that the activities are in compliance with domestic law, and with international contracts and treaties to which Lao PDR is a party.

Article 85: Livestock and Veterinary Inspection Authority

Veterinary inspectors have the following main rights and duties:

- 1. Inspection of livestock farms, animal feed manufacturing factories, animal feed distribution points, slaughterhouses, slaughter points, vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing factories, *animal clinics or treatment areas*, animal disease laboratories, animal feed laboratories, animal quarantine checkpoints, animal products processing factories, animal commodity transportation containers, and other places that undertake livestock and veterinary activities;
- 2. Zoo-sanitary inspection of places engaged in trading meat, animals, animal products, storage and processing facilities in order to ensure sanitation and hygiene for consumers by *collaborating with the other sectors concerned;*
- 3. To inspect and collect specimens for analysis in cases in which animals or animal products are suspected of being infected or contaminated;
- 4. To make temporary seizures of animals, meat and animal products if falsified or incomplete sets of documents are found or if suspected of severe disease infection or contamination while awaiting laboratory results;
- 5. To recommend that inspectors cooperate and provide information on animal and veterinary affairs;
- 6. To implement inspection measures such as searching of premises; if necessary, deliver orders to temporarily halt activities and issue orders not to move inspected targets;
- 7. To apply measures to violators of the livestock and veterinary laws under legal jurisdiction;
- 8. To seize evidence; to advise violators and to file cases and submit to sectors concerned for further procedures as provided by the law.

Article 88: Forms of Inspection

Inspection takes the three following forms:

- 1. Routine inspection;
- 2. Inspection by prior notification;
- 3. Emergency inspection.

Routine inspection is the inspection provided for in mandates and rights which are decentralized as a routine and timely inspection;

Inspection by prior notification is the sending of advance notification to parties to be inspected based 76.74.1(s)6.4()-5.1(in)-5.006 Twp orde.3(p)-(d)-1.2(er)6.7(ta)4.4.06.4()-i/TT4 1ntaa

The State has fixed November 11 as National Animal Vaccination Day in order to raise awareness among people and the society for the prevention of animal diseases and promoting animal health care while aiming to prevent endemic disease infections as well as develop livestock production and veterinary awareness.

Article 90: Uniform, Logo and Stamp

The Livestock and Veterinary Management Authority have uniforms for their officers in

Chapter IX

Rewards and Penalties

Article 91: Rewards

Individuals, families and organizations that achieve remarkable accomplishments in the

CHAPTER X

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LIST OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES OF ANIMALS FOUND IN LIST A OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE) AND ANIMAL DISEASES FOR WHICH DECLARATION IS REQUIRED

Foot and mouth disease Vesicular stomatitis Swine vesicular disease Rinderpest Contagious bovine pleuro pneumonia Peste des petits ruminants Lumpy skin disease Rift Valley fever Blue tongue Sheep and goat pox African horse sickness Classical swine fever Highly pathogenic avian influenza Newcastle disease Anthrax Rabies Haemorrhagic septicaemia Bovine spongiform encephalopathy

Note: Specific uses of 'veterinary science', 'veterinary practice', veterinary medicine' are not specifically defined in Lao language.