

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

Office of the Prime Minister

No. 85/PM

THE DECREE OF THE PRIME MINISTER REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE STANDARD AND QUALITY OF GOODS AND PRODUCTS

- x Reference the Constitution of the Lao PDR, dated 14 August 1991
- x Reference the Law on the Promotion and Management of Foreign Investment in the Lao PDR, No. 01/94, dated 14 March 1994
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Article 4

Individuals, organizations, or juristic entities have the right to make proposals and to petition the relevant agency managing the standard and quality of goods and products regarding production, conducting businesses in fake goods and products, and all instances of misrepresentation regarding the quality of goods and products.

Agencies managing the standard and quality of goods and products at each level have the duty to consider and resolve [matters arising from such] applications and petitions according to legal procedures.

Article 5

This decree is applicable to individuals, organizations or juristic entities who produce

5. Accept and consider for undertaking to resolve [issues arising pursuant to] proposals, petitions and demands from parties and from the people regarding the standard and quality of goods and products;
6. Research and create national standards regarding goods and products;
7. Manage and determine the use of international standards in the Lao PDR;
8. Confirm, approve and cancel quality certificates, the use of national labeling and the offices of goods and products inspection of the [specific] divisions and localities within the entire country;
9. Establish a quality testing facility and issue goods and products quality certificates.
10. Register the quality of goods and products imported and exported.
11. Improve the level of technical officials and cooperate internationally in the area of the standards and quality management;
12. Conduct scientific and technological research; establish a system of publicizing the modification and improvement of national standards.

Article 8

Local management agencies (provincial and prefectural levels) have the right and the duty to:

1. Draft annual activity plans and long term plans, rules and regulations regarding the management of standards and the inspection of the quality of goods and products for proposal to the Central Management Agency for consideration and approval;
2. Establish and recommend the undertaking of activities of agencies for the management of standards and the inspection of the quality of goods and products under their authority.
3. Contribute opinions in the drafting of laws, decrees, regulations, national standards and rules regarding the standards and quality of goods and products drafted by the Central Management Agency.
4. Establish an office for the inspection of quality of goods and products, to ensure the system of inspection, to certify technical points regarding inspection of the quality of goods and products in compliance with national standards or international standards which have been determined to be applicable in the Lao PDR.
5. Determine programs for goods and products within the country which must be registered from time to time, establish a registration [system] for the quality of goods and products, inspect and apply measures against those who violate laws and regulations regarding the management of the standards and quality of goods and products according to their rights, duties, and responsibilities.
6. Conduct research and assemble science and technology officials in order to improve the standards and quality of goods and products.
7. Establish a system of information [distribution] and publication of regulations and laws and information regarding the standards and quality of goods and products.

Part III
Establishment and Usage of National Standards Labeling, Certification of Standards
And Office of Quality Inspection, Determination of Goods and Products Programs
For Inspecting Goods and Products

Article 9

Any goods and products standard is a technical document which provides an explanation of the quality and features [of goods and products], the method to extract a sample, the method of test, the expected packaging, the use of trademarks, the transportation and the method of preservation; including regulations, plans, methods and other matters related to the quality of goods and products.

Article 10

National standards regarding goods and products are national standards which have been established based upon research derived from past experience in science and technology and international standards which are appropriate to the economic conditions of the Lao PDR.

Article 11

Standards are compiled of two forms:

1. Mandatory standards are national standards which provide for an expected level of [quality] related to national security, public order, safety, health and hygiene, the environment and standards of goods and products of strategic importance which the Government determines from time to time.
2. Voluntary standards are standards which do not determine the expected level of [quality] and are created based upon production in order to ensure quality of producer's commodity with recommendations from the relevant management agency at various [governmental] levels.

Article 12

Individuals, organizations or juristic entities producing goods and products and

No individuals, organizations or juristic ~~ties~~ ^{entities} who conduct production or business

Part VII
Implementation

Article 26

The Science Technology and Environmental Agency is assigned to perform its duties as the goods and products and standards and quality managing agency and is to expand this Decree by further regulations and detailed instructions for implementation.

The Food and Drug Administration shall undertake its activities according to its role by co-ordinating with [STENO]. In other areas which are not yet established and which