



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

National Assembly

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The Law On Disaster Management

Part I General Provisions

Article 1 Purpose

This Law defines principles, regulations and measures on disaster management in order for such work to be implemented efficiently, effectively and innovatively, ensuring fast and accurate supply of information with the aim to closely monitor, reduce the effects of disaster on health, lives, assets of the Government, collectively and the people's, the environment and basic infrastructure, as well as the recovery, maintenance and re-construction after disaster, able to link up at regional and international levels, contributing to the national socio-economic development in line with the green direction, sustainability and national security policies.

Article 2 Disaster Management

Disaster means a severely dangerous event, natural and/or man-made, that causes major damages to health, lives, assets, economics and livelihoods of human-being in society, both short-term and long-term.

Disaster Management is the implementation of various principles, regulations and measures on prevention, control and recovery of disaster, with effectiveness and in accordance to the Law.

Article 3 Terminology

The terms used in this Law contain the following definitions:

1. **Natural Disaster** means natural events, phenomena and changes, mainly flood, drought, storm, cold weather, earthquake, landslide, pest and epidemic;

2. **Man-made Disaster** means emergency and dangerous environmental events caused by human behaviours mainly fire, forest fire, haze, radiation, chemical leak, unexploded ordinance and accidents;
3. **Dangerous Situation** means any phenomenon or situation that creates major destruction or damage;
4. **Severe Disaster** means disaster, occurring in any area, that causes damage and lost to health, lives, assets, socio-economics and the environment, greater than the capability of Provincial authorities to handle;
5. **Disaster Risk** means the probability of occurrence of an event, natural and/or man-made, that will cause damages;
6. **Raw Data** means data and database or numbers received from surveys and administration reports that have not been analyzed, tested or proven;

Article 4 State Policy on Disaster Management

The State gives Disaster Management work importance by setting strategies, measures, operation plans, projects, trainings, awareness-raising, contributing human resource, supply of news and information, budget, equipment, vehicles and mobilization of assistance, in order for relevant organizations to work with efficiency and effectiveness, ensuring peace and safety, reducing the risk to lives, health, assets, legitimate rights and benefits of citizens.

The State encourages and advocates for individuals, entities and organizations, domestic and international, to contribute funding, technical expertise, equipment, vehicles, various materials, labor and knowledge, towards disaster management.

The State focuses on human resource development, construction of basic infrastructure, scientific research and transfer, application of innovative and environment-friendly technology as well as local knowledge for disaster management.

Article 5 Principles on Disaster Management

Disaster management work must comply with the following principles:

1. Consistent with direction of policies, the Constitution, laws, strategies and national socio-economic development plans, national defense and public security work, international treaties and agreements that Lao PDR is a party to;

2. Consider disaster prevention as primary work, while control and recovery as important work;
3. Ensure equality, fairness, transparency, openness and assessability;
4. Ensure supply of news and information on metrology, hydrology, environmental data, risk data and other information related to disaster, to be accurate, continuous, fast and timely;
5. Ensure engagement from all parts of society and cooperation between Ministries, organizations and local authorities.

Article 6 Obligation of Citizens to Disaster Management

All citizens are obligated to limit and prevent disasters by monitoring and reporting the disaster risk condition, engaging in disaster preparedness, response, risk reduction, relief assistance and recovery after disaster, including contribution to the Disaster Management Fund and purchase of accident and disaster insurance.

Article 7 Scope

This Law applies to individual, entity, and organization, domestic and foreign, relevant to disaster management work in Lao PDR.

Article 8 International Cooperation

The State promotes foreign, regional and international relations and cooperation on disaster management work through the exchange of lessons learned, news, information, scientific research, technology and human resource development, mainly trainings, emergency assistance drills, and implementation of international treaties and agreements that Lao PDR is a party to.

Part II

Prevention, Control and Recovery

Chapter I

Disaster Prevention

Article 9 Disaster Prevention

Disaster prevention means the setting of plans and measures to cease and reduce disaster risk, which must be implemented as followings:

1. Data Collection and Registration of Risk Zone;

2. Determination of Risk Zone;
3. Risk Zone Mapping;
4. Development of Information System on Risk;
5. Access and Use of Information;
6. Risk Assessment;
7. Risk Reduction;
8. Disaster Response Preparedness;
9. Early Warning;
10. Evacuation Announcement.

Article 10 Data Collection and Registration of Risk Zone

Data collection and registration of disaster risk zone means the summary, assessment, data analysis and recording of a disaster risk zone, modeling, future estimation, resource registration, including the mechanisms to exchange news, information on disaster damage and investment into disaster management work.

Relevant sectors shall conduct data collection and registration of the disaster risk zone within their area of responsibility and report further to the Disaster Management Committee at their respective level.

Article 11 Determination of Risk Zone

The Disaster Management Committee at each relevant level shall examine and consider the characteristics, geographical uniqueness and severity of the disaster, in order to determine the disaster risk zone, as a basis for disaster management planning, including urban, land use, livelihood and vocational planning, construction of basic infrastructure and various development projects, with ensured safety from disasters.

Article 12 Risk Mapping

The Secretariat of the Disaster Management Committee at each level shall coordinate with relevant sectors, organizations and local authorities to assess and map disaster risk zones, in order for people in the risk zone to closely monitor and avoid the establishment of village settlement, housing, production and various development projects, which would result in disaster damage.

Article 13 Development of Disaster Risk Information System

The development of disaster risk information system is the development of basic tools necessary to make disaster management convenient, timely, fast, accurate, efficient and effective.

The central level Disaster Management Committee shall cooperate with Ministries, organizations and relevant local authorities to develop, improve, manage and use the disaster risk information system, linked up with information of the Statistics Bureau, as well as the supply and exchange of information related to disaster management.

The provincial and district level Disaster Management Committee shall develop, improve, manage and use the database, linked up with the central level disaster risk information system, as well as the supply and exchange of information related to disaster management at their locality.

Article 14 Access and Use of Information

Individuals, entities and organizations shall be able to access and use information in the disaster risk information system or database. As for information on disaster survey and research used for business purposes, standard and service fees apply according to regulations.

Those that require the use of raw data, from relevant sectors, must determine the purpose of usage, information source and exchange results from information usage with such sectors.

Article 15 Risk Assessment

Disaster risk assessment is the evaluation on level of risk, damage, danger, previous disasters and estimation of possible risk, which would bring about damages to health, lives, assets, the economy and environment.

The central level Disaster Management Committee shall set the general regulations on disaster risk assessment in cooperation with relevant Ministries, organizations and local authorities.

The provincial and district level Disaster Management Committee shall set the specific regulations on disaster risk assessment, consistent with the general regulations, conduct assessment and evaluation on the level of risk, danger, previous disasters and estimation of possible risk, within their area of responsibility, in cooperation with relevant sectors and propose to higher level Disaster Management Committee.

Relevant sectors shall assess and evaluate the level of risk, danger, previous disasters and estimation of possible risk, related to their sector and report to the Disaster Management Committee at their level.

Article 16 Risk Reduction

Disaster risk reduction is the measure and operation to cease and prevent all possible events, natural and/or man-made, that may affect and cause damage to health, lives, assets, the economy and environment, in accordance with the strategy and disaster risk map, mainly the use of engineering technical expertise for disaster resilient basic infrastructure construction and social awareness programs.

The Disaster Management Committee at each level set disaster risk reduction measures and plans, in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities.

Relevant sectors set disaster risk reduction measures and plans relevant to their sectors.

Article 17 Disaster Response Preparedness

Disaster response preparedness is the process of preparing, planning and determining measures for prevention and response to disaster events in order to reduce the various damages, through the close monitor, disaster announcement, direct, command, exploration or search and rescue, warehouse system for assistance goods, emergency relief, temporary shelter, medical assistance, the use of military force, police force and civilian, equipment, transportation vehicles, communication, facilitation, coordination and cooperation with all parties, request for assistance from various countries in the regional and international community, within the Government's scope of cooperation.

The Disaster Management Committee at each level, jointly with relevant sectors, shall determine the plan, measure, evacuation site, training, drill, and refuge, for disaster response preparedness.

Article 18 Early Warning

Early warning is the issuance of acknowledgement and announcement on caution zone through mass media vehicles or other methods, with speed, accuracy and timeliness, in order for the people, community, organization and all parties to have time to prepare ahead for response to possible disaster.

In the case of disaster, which covers the area of multiple villages, the Head of District, Head of Municipality, or City Mayor shall issue the warning and announcement on caution zone, as proposed by district level Disaster Management Committee.

In the case of disaster, which covers the area of multiple districts, the Provincial Governor, or Capital City Governor shall issue the warning and announcement on caution zone, as proposed by the provincial level Disaster Management Committee.

In the case of disaster, which covers the area of multiple provinces, the Government shall issue the warning and announcement on caution zone, as proposed by central level Disaster Management Committee.

Disaster warnings shall be based on the forecast, monitoring and estimation of relevant sectors.

Article 19 Evacuation Announcement

Evacuation announcement is the issuance of acknowledgement for the people in the disaster risk zone to quickly evacuate; while the people must prepare and remove their valuable assets to other safe and temporary zone, as allocated or specifically designated.

The evacuation announcer is the same as the issuer of early warning acknowledgement, as determined in Article 18 of this law.

Article 20 Prevention Measures

Relevant sectors must have prevention measures, mainly through the establishment of early warning system, prevention of landslide, flood, and drought, in order to reduce the effects of natural disasters.

Individuals, entities and organizations that possess, use and transport explosive, flammable, chemical and radioactive materials, natural resource mines, dam construction must have reliable prevention methods and measures, mainly the use of up-to-date tools, labelling, early warning, preparation for control and resolution to the possible consequences, in order to reduce the effects of man-made disaster.

Chapter 3 Disaster Control

Article 21 Disaster Control

Disaster control is the limitation of occurring disaster from causing severe effects or major damages to health, lives, assets of the Government collectively and of the people, which must implement the following:

1. Ensure Safety;
2. Emergency Assistance;
3. Exploration or Search and Rescue;
4. Initial Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment;
5. Necessary Basic Infrastructure Repair;
6. Declaration as Disaster Affected Zone;
7. Termination of Declaration as Disaster Affected Zone.

Article 22 Ensure Safety

The Disaster Management Committee at each level, in cooperation with Ministries, organizations and relevant local authorities, shall implement measures to ensure safety to health, lives and assets of disaster affected people and those providing assistance.

Article 23 Emergency Assistance

For disasters occurring in any locality, the locals shall take the initiative to urgently provide emergency assistance quickly and in a timely manner.

The Disaster Management Committee at each level, in cooperation with relevant Ministries, organizations and local authorities, including individuals, entities and organizations, domestic and foreign, shall provide emergency assistance, mainly temporary shelter, food, drinking water, non-potable water, emergency medical service, clothing and others for disaster affected people.

In the case of a severe disaster, the central level Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with relevant local authorities, shall establish an emergency operation center at the central level and locality of the disaster, allocate temporary shelter, warehouse, medical assistance, transportation, and distribute emergency relief items in a comprehensive and timely manner.

Article 24 Exploration, Search and Rescue

During a disaster, relevant Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with local authorities including all parts of society, shall assist in the exploration, search, rescue and evacuation of disaster affected people to a safe or allocated area.

In case of a severe disaster, the emergency operation center shall take the initiative to lead and direct overall assistance, as determined in the first paragraph of this Article.

Article 25 Initial Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment

The relevant Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with local authorities of the disaster site, sectors and all parties, shall conduct damage and initial rapid need assessment, in order to plan for emergency assistance.

Article 26 Necessary Basic Infrastructure Repair

Relevant sectors must apply measures to urgently repair necessary basic infrastructure, to ensure initial resolution to disaster emergencies, accurate with actuality and based on verification by relevant Disaster Management Committee.

Article 27 Declaration as Disaster Affected Zone

A disaster affected zone is any area currently affected by a disaster, which affects and causes major damage to health, lives, assets of the Government, collectively and the people's, the environment and basic infrastructure.

In case of a disaster covering the areas of multiple villages, the Head of District, Head of Municipality, City Mayor shall declare the areas as a disaster affected zone, as proposed by district level Disaster Management Committee.

In case of a disaster covering the areas of multiple districts, the Provincial Governor, or Capital City Governor shall declare the areas as a disaster affected zone, as proposed by provincial level Disaster Management Committee.

In case of a disaster covering the areas of multiple provinces or severe disaster, the Government shall declare the areas as a disaster affected zone, as proposed by central level Disaster Management Committee.

Article 28 Termination of Declaration as Disaster Affected Zone

The Government or local authorities shall terminate the declaration of the area as a disaster affected zone within their scope of responsibility, as determined

in Article 27 of this law, after the disaster event has subsided, as proposed by relevant Disaster Management Committee.

Article 29 Disaster Control Measures

In case of a natural disaster, the relevant Disaster Management Committee in cooperation with local authorities of the disaster site, sectors and all parties, shall examine and apply disaster control methods and measures, as well as mobilize people and organizations to contribute knowledge, labor, funding, vehicles and necessary equipment, to reduce the effects of such disaster.

In the case of a man-made disaster, mainly chemical leak, haze, radiation, landslide, flood, water ponding caused by the operation of an investment project or any activity, the investment project developer or those conducting such activity must be responsible for resolving the main cause and impact of such disaster, as well as report to the Government, local authorities, and relevant sectors and notify the public in a timely manner.

In the case of disasters occurring in multiple localities simultaneously, the relevant Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with local authorities of the disaster site, sectors and all parties, shall find methods and measures to reduce the impact in a timely manner.

Chapter 3 Post-Disaster Recovery

Article 30 Post-Disaster Recovery

Post-disaster recovery is the livelihood rehabilitation of disaster affected people and maintenance, repair, construction of basic infrastructure affected and/or damaged by disaster, to restore back to normal or better condition, which must implement as followings:

1. Post-Disaster Needs Assessment;
2. Creating Disaster Recovery Plan;
3. Disaster Recovery Operation;
4. Post-Recovery Monitoring and Inspection.

Article 31 Post-Disaster Needs Assessment

Post-Disaster Needs Assessment is the evaluation of damage and needs level, in order to rehabilitate livelihoods, repair and reconstruct basic infrastructure that was damaged by disaster.

The relevant Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with local authorities of disaster site, sectors and all parties, shall conduct post-disaster needs assessment in order to recover and assist in various ways, in a timely manner.

Article 32 Disaster Recovery Planning

Disaster Recovery Planning is the planning process, based on the results of a post-disaster needs assessment, to rehabilitate livelihoods and recover basic infrastructure in the disaster affected area.

The Provincial level Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with local authorities of disaster site and all relevant parties, shall create the disaster recovery plan, propose to provincial authorities for inclusion in the annual socio-economic development plan and budget plan, and then propose to the Provincial People's Assembly for consideration and adoption.

In the case of a disaster covering multiple provinces or a severe disaster, the central level Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with relevant Ministries, organizations and local authorities, shall create the disaster recovery plan to propose to the Government and then propose to the National Assembly for consideration and adoption.

Article 33 Disaster Recovery Operation

Local authorities of the disaster site shall take the initiative to implement according to the recovery plan that was adopted, in cooperation with relevant sectors and all parties.

Individual, entity and organization operating production, business, service or any activity that causes disaster, must be responsible for the resolution and recovery of basic infrastructure, mainly production facility, living area, cultural heritage, nature, historical site and ancient artifact, that was destroyed as well as provide compensation to disaster affected people, under the monitoring and inspection of relevant Disaster Management Committee.

Article 34 Post-Recovery Monitoring and Inspection

Provincial and district level Disaster Management Committee shall take the initiative to monitor, inspect and evaluate implementation of disaster recovery plan, in cooperation with local authorities of disaster site, sectors and all parties, and report to provincial and district authorities.

In case of disaster covering multiple provinces or severe disaster, the central level Disaster Management Committee shall take the initiative to monitor, inspect and evaluate implementation of disaster recovery plan, in cooperation with Ministries, organizations and provincial authorities, and report to the Government.

Part III
Assistance, Responsibility of the State, Community and Social
Contribution
Chapter 1
Assistance

Article 35 Assistance

The relevant Disaster Management Committee shall take the initiative, in cooperation with local authorities of the disaster site, sectors and all parties, to operate relief assistance for disaster affected people, mainly public health services, supplying food and non-food items, other necessary livelihood items, and allocation of shelters.

Article 36 Request for Assistance

In case of disaster, if deemed necessary, relevant Disaster Management Committee and local authorities of disaster site are able to request assistance from any sector and party, in order to explore, search, rescue and provide disaster relief to affected people.

In case there is a need to request for foreign assistance, the central level Disaster Management Committee shall propose to the Government to consider issuing such request.

Article 37 Facilitation for International Assistance

The central level Disaster Management Committee, in cooperation with relevant Ministries, organizations and local authorities, shall facilitate the entry of personnel, mainly journalists, medical personnel, rescuers, rescue teams; entry of vehicles, equipment, medicine, consumables and other goods, which individual, international organization, non-governmental organization, social organization, friendly and regional countries have provided in assistance as determined in laws, international treaties and agreements of which Lao PDR is a party to.

The assistance of vehicle, equipment, medicine, consumables and other goods are exempted of duty, tax and other compulsory contribution.

The return of personnel, vehicle and equipment back to home country must be facilitated as well.

Article 38 Management of Assistance

The Government manages, in a centralized manner, all assistance, domestic and foreign, by assigning the Disaster Management Committee at each level directly responsible and to take the initiative, in cooperation with local authorities of disaster site and relevant sectors.

The personnel providing assistance must operate in accordance to regulations and under the management of relevant Disaster Management Committee and sectors.

Chapter 2 Responsibility of the State and Community

Article 39 Responsibility of the State

The State is responsible for providing the conditions, facilitation, supply of budget, contribution of vehicle, material, technical expertise, human resource and basic infrastructure construction, in order to development disaster management work to become strong, advanced and able to operate according to its role, rights and duties.

Article 40 Responsibility of the Community

The community is responsible for supporting and cooperating with relevant Disaster Management Committee, sectors and all parties, to provide the condition and facilitation in order to perform the duty of educating the people to participate in implementation of disaster management work.

Chapter 3 Involvement of Society

Article 41 Awareness-Raising

Awareness-raising is the comprehensive education, widespread and in-depth dissemination through mass media, formulation of learning curriculum, stimulation and promotion of various activities on disaster management work, in

order for everyone to be informed and understand the danger and risk of disasters, with all sectors, organizations and all levels of local authorities taking the initiative and devoted participation from throughout society.

Article 42 Involvement of Society

Society is involved in disaster management work through disaster prevention, response preparedness, risk reduction and the recovery of disaster affected area.

Part IV

Rights and Obligations of Disaster Affected People

Article 43 Rights of Disaster Affected People

The primary rights of disaster affected people are as followings:

1. Receive emergency relief assistance, mainly food, drinking water, clothing, temporary shelter;
2. Access to basic services, mainly public health, news and information;
3. Receive special facilitation for pregnant mothers, children, those with disabilities and the elderlies;
4. Receive maintenance and repair of living area and vocational arrangement;
5. Receive welfares in accordance to regulations.

Article 44 Obligations of Disaster Affected People

The primary obligations of disaster affected people are as followings:

1. Accurately report the damages experienced by them and their family;
2. Provide news and information that benefit exploration, search and rescue operation;
3. Comply with evacuation plan to officially assigned area;
4. Contribute towards maintaining order within temporary shelter area;
5. Contribute intellect and labor towards assisting each other;
6. Comply with the announcement and guidelines of relevant Disaster Management Committee and local authorities.

Part V Disaster Management Fund

Article 45 Disaster Management Fund

The Disaster Management Fund is a government fund, established to mobilize and accumulate funding from various sources, with the aim of ensuring sufficient and sustainable budget for an effective and efficient disaster management work.

The Disaster Management Fund is abbreviated “DMF”

There are three levels of Disaster Management Fund: central, provincial and district level.

Article 46 Source of Disaster Management Fund

The primary sources of Disaster Management Fund are as followings:

1. Government budget;
2. Contribution from investment projects, businesses and individuals;
3. Assistance from domestic and international organizations;
4. Income from fundraising;
5. Other legal forms of income;

Article 47 Management and Use of Fund

The management and use of Disaster Management Fund must ensure transparency and auditability.

The Disaster Management Fund shall be used towards disaster control, mainly emergency assistance, necessary basic infrastructure repair, exploration, search and rescue.

The details on management and use of Disaster Management Fund are determined in separate regulation.

Part VI Prohibitions

Article 48 General Prohibitions

Individual, entity and organization are prohibited from the following behaviors:

1. Destroy or alter natural and environmental conditions that would cause disaster;

2. Take advantage of the opportunity to withhold supplies of goods, raise product prices and public transportation fees;
3. Take advantage of the opportunity to receive donations in various forms;
4. Conduct donation campaigns without permission;
5. Use violence, destroy and steal items belonging to disaster affected people;
6. Create obstacle, obstruct, ignore and refuse to cooperate in disaster management work;
7. Disseminate, report or provide information inaccurate with actuality or false information;
8. Provide or receive bribery, asset fraud or extortion;
9. Slander or discredit Government authority and employee;
10. Donate expired food consumable goods as well as medicine, and useless non-food consumable goods.
11. Other behaviors considered violation of the Law.

Article 49 Prohibitions for Government Officials or Employees

Government officials or employees are prohibited from the following behaviors:

1. Take advantage of the right, duty, position, use violence, force, and threaten in order to gain personal benefits, for family, relatives and friends;
2. Demand, request or receive bribery from individual, entity or various organizations;
3. Perform duties with carelessness, negligent and irresponsibly;
4. Delay documents on resolutions to disaster management issue;
5. Demand for fees and service cost that violates the Law;
6. Falsify document, issue false document and destroy document;
7. Reveal secrets of the Government, or official secrets, the secrets of individual, entity or organization;
8. Increase or decrease assistance funding, use the income from disaster management arbitrarily;
9. Other behaviors considered violation of the Law.

Article 50 Prohibitions for Disaster Affected People

Disaster affected people are prohibited from the following behaviors:

1. Report untruthful damages experienced by them and their family;

2. Provide inaccurate news and false information;
3. Destroy or displace evidence or falsify document for the purpose of requesting assistance;
4. Move away from the allocated living area without permission;
5. Create difficulty and disorder in the temporary shelter area;
6. Violate the announcement and guideline of relevant Disaster Management Committee and local authorities;
7. Take advantage of the opportunity to steal items belonging to other disaster affected people;
8. Other behaviors considered violation of the Law.

Part VII

Disaster Management Committee

Article 51 Disaster Management Committee

The Disaster Management Committee is a non-standing organization with an advisory role to examine, lead and coordinate with relevant sectors and local authorities, in order to enhance and implement disaster management work.

The Disaster Management Committee consist of:

1. Central level Disaster Management Committee;
2. Provincial level Disaster Management Committee;
3. District level Disaster Management Committee;
4. Village level Disaster Management Committee.

Article 52 Central level Disaster Management Committee

The central level Disaster Management Committee, abbreviated as “**CDMC**”, is appointed by the Prime Minister, through proposal of the Minister of Labor and Social Welfare, has the role to examine and implement policies, strategies, measures, laws, regulations, plans, programs and projects on disaster management work, with the Social Welfare Department, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare as the secretariat.

The central level Disaster Management Committee consist of:

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|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Deputy Prime Minister | President; |
| 2. Minister of Labor and Social Welfare | Vice President, Standing Member; |
| 3. Deputy Minister of National Defense | Vice President; |
| 4. Deputy Minister of Finance | Vice President; |

5. Deputy Chief of Cabinet, Prime Minister Office	Member;
6. Deputy Minister of National Resource and Environment	Member;
7. Deputy Minister of Health	Member;
8. Deputy Minister of Education and Sports	Member;
9. Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry	Member;
10. Deputy Minister of Public Works and Transport	Member;
11. Deputy Minister of Public Security	Member;
12. Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment	Member;
13. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs	Member;
14. Deputy Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism	Member;
15. <u>Deputy Minister of Energy and Mines</u>	<u>Member;</u>
16. <u>Deputy Minister of Home Affairs</u>	<u>Member;</u>
17. <u>Deputy Minister of Science and Technology</u>	<u>Member;</u>
18. Vice President of Central Lao Front for National Development	Member;
19. <u>Deputy Secretary General of Central Lao Youth Union</u>	<u>Member;</u>
20. Vice President of Lao Red Cross	Member;
21. Director General of Social Welfare Department, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare	Member and Head of Secretariat.

Besides the central level Disaster Management Committee, any Ministry, with the necessity to do so, may establish ministry level Disaster Management Committee, to act as an assistant body to the central level Disaster Management Committee as well as a coordination point, in accordance with agreement of the relevant Minister or Head of organizations.

Article 53 Provincial level Disaster Management Committee

The provincial level Disaster Management Committee, abbreviated “**PDMC**”, appointed by the Provincial Governor, or Capital City Governor, through proposal of the Head of Provincial Department of Labor and Social Welfare, has the role to lead implementation of policies, strategies, measures, laws, regulations, plans, programs and projects on disaster management work, with the Social Welfare Section, Provincial Department of Labor and Social Welfare as the secretariat.

The provincial level Disaster Management Committee consist of:

1. Vice Provincial Governor, Vice Capital City Governor	President;
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2. Head of Provincial Department of Labor and Social Welfare
Vice President, Standing Member;
3. Deputy Head of Provincial, Capital City Military Headquarters
Vice President;
4. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Finance
Vice President;
5. Deputy Chief of Cabinet, Provincial Governor, Capital City Governor Office
Member;
6. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Natural Resource and
Environment
Member;
7. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Health
Member;
8. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Education and Sports
Member;
9. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Member;
10. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport
Member;
11. Deputy Head of Provincial, Capital City Public Security Headquarters
Member;
12. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Planning and Investment
Member;
13. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Foreign Affairs
Member;
14. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Information, Culture and
Tourism
Member;
15. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Energy and Mines Member;
16. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Home Affairs Member;
17. Deputy Head of Provincial Department of Science and Technology
Member;
18. Vice President of the Lao Front for National Development
Member;
19. Deputy Secretary General of Provincial Lao Youth Union Member;
20. Head of Provincial Lao Red Cross
Member;
21. Head of Social Welfare Section, Provincial Department of Labor and Social
Welfare
Member and Head of Secretariat.

Article 54 District level Disaster Management Committee

The district level Disaster Management Committee, abbreviated as “DDMC”, appointed by the Head of District, Municipality, City Mayor, through proposal of the Head of District Labor and Social Welfare Office, has the role to lead implementation of policies, strategies, measures, laws, regulations, plans,

programs and projects on disaster management work, with the Social Welfare Unit, District Labor and Social Welfare Office as the secretariat.

The district level Disaster Management Committee consist of:

1. Deputy Head of District, Municipality, Deputy City Mayor President;
2. Head of District Labor and Social Welfare Office
 Vice President, Standing Member;
3. Deputy Head of District, Municipality, City Military Headquarter
 Vice President;
4. Deputy Head of District Finance Office Vice President;
5. Deputy Chief of Cabinet, District, Municipality, City Office Member;
6. Deputy Head of District Natural Resource and Environment Office
 Member;
7. Deputy Head of District Health Office Member;
8. Deputy Head of District Education and Sports Office Member;
9. Deputy Head of District Agriculture and Forestry Office Member;
10. Deputy Head of District Public Works and Transport Office Member;
11. Deputy Head of District Public Security Headquarter Member;
12. Deputy Head of District Planning and Investment Office Member;
13. Deputy Head of District Information, Culture and Tourism Office Member;
14. Deputy Head of District Energy and Mines Office Member;
15. Deputy Head of District Home Affairs Office Member;
16. Deputy Head of District Science and Technology Office Member;
17. Vice President of Lao Front for National Development Member;
18. Deputy Secretary General of District Lao Youth Union Member;
19. Head of Social Welfare Unit, District Labor and Social Welfare Office
 Member and Head of Secretariat.

Article 55 Rights and duties of Central, Provincial and District Level Disaster Management Committee

Central, provincial and district level Disaster Management Committee have the right and duty, within in their scope of responsibility, as followings:

1. Announce disaster emergencies;
2. Propose to the Government, Provincial Governor, Capital City Governor, Head of District, Municipality, City Mayor for consideration and declaration of certain locality or area as disaster zone;

3. Issue orders for all relevant parties to prepare and perform their duties in timely manner;
4. Disburse funding directly from Disaster Management Fund, at their respective level, towards disaster control;
5. Establish specialize unit, to handle disaster that has occurred or may occur;
6. Cooperate with Ministries, organizations, local authorities, sectors and all parties for disaster management;
7. Mobilize funding through various methods that does not conflict with the Constitution and Laws, to serve disaster management work;
8. Receive donations in the form of money, materials and various assets from individual, entity and organization, domestic and foreign, to serve disaster management work;
9. Participate in meetings, to examine disaster management work;
10. Participate in regional and international meetings on disaster management work;
11. Regularly summarize and report their operations to the Government, Provincial Governor, Capital City Governor, Head of District, Municipality or City Mayor;
12. Perform other rights and duties according to the Law and as assigned by higher authorities.

Article 56 Rights and duties of the Secretariat of Central, Provincial and District Level Disaster Management Committee

The secretariat of the central, provincial and district level Disaster Management Committee have the following rights and duties within their scope of responsibility:

1. Examine, consolidate and propose plans, as well as measures, on disaster management to their respective level of Disaster Management Committee for consideration;
2. Encourage, monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies, strategies, measures, laws, plans, programs and projects on disaster management work;
3. Cooperate with relevant sectors, at central and local levels, to consolidate and report on the damages and urgent emergency needs; as well as propose operation plans, on response assistance and emergency relief

- of disaster affected people, to their respective level of Disaster Management Committee;
4. Central to the coordination with various sectors and parties, domestic and foreign, on disaster management work;
 5. Prepare their respective level Disaster management Committee Meeting;
 6. Collect, consolidate and store information on disaster management work;
 7. Encourage awareness-raising through advocacy and dissemination, to society and community on the danger, negative effects of disaster, measures for response preparedness, prevention and reduction of the effects of disaster;
 8. Participate in seminar and training, domestic and foreign;
 9. Regularly summarize and report their operations to their respective level Disaster Management Committee;
 10. Perform other rights and duties according to the Law and as assigned by higher authorities.

Article 57 Village Level Disaster Management Committee

The village level Disaster Management Committee, abbreviated as “**VDMC**”, appointed by the Head of District, Head of Municipality, or City Mayor, has the role to take the initiative on village level disaster management, central to the coordination with relevant parties and assist the work of district level Disaster Management Committee, with the Socio-Cultural Unit as the secretariat.

The village level Disaster Management Committee consist of:

1. Chief or Deputy Chief of Village President;
2. Head of Village Socio-Cultural Unit Vice President, Head of Secretariat;
3. Deputy Head of Village Front Vice President;
4. Deputy Head of Village Administration and Governance Unit Member;
5. Deputy Secretary General of Village Lao Youth Union Member;
6. Vice President of Village Women Union Member;
7. Deputy Head of Village Economics-Finance Unit Member;
8. Deputy Head of Village National Defense-Public Security Unit Member;

The village level Disaster Management Committee has the right and duty, within their scope of responsibility, as followings:

1. Implement policies, strategies, measures, laws, regulations, plans, programs and projects on disaster management work;
2. Disseminate regulations and plans on disaster risk reduction and response preparedness;
3. Collect data, statistics and participate in the implementation of disaster management activities;
4. Take the initiative to provide emergency assistance during disaster;
5. Monitor the condition or situation of disaster events occurring in their village;
6. Regularly summarize and report results from the implementation of disaster management work, to their respective higher authorities;
7. Perform other rights and duties according to the Law and as assigned by higher authorities.

Part VIII
Management and Inspection
Chapter 1
Management of Disaster Work

Article 58 Disaster Work Management Organization

The Government manages disaster work, in a centralized and unified manner throughout the country, by assigning the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare directly responsible and to take the initiative to cooperate with Ministries, organizations and relevant local authorities.

Disaster Management work Management Organization consists of:

1. Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare;
2. Provincial, Capital City Department of Labor and Social Welfare;
3. District, Municipality, City Office of Labor and Social Welfare.

Article 59 Rights and Duties of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare

In the management of disaster work, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare has the following rights and duties:

1. Examine and create policies, strategies and laws on disaster management work, to propose to the Government for consideration;
2. Enhance policies, strategies and laws on disaster management work through sub-legislation, detailed plans, programs and projects to be implemented;

3. Advocate and disseminate policies, strategies, laws, through sub-legislation, plans, programs and projects on disaster management, as well as raise awareness for the public to be informed and to understand;
4. Develop and manage the use of human resource on disaster management work, in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities;
5. Collect, supply information and implement disaster management in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities;
6. Conduct disaster risk assessment, in order to serve and create disaster response preparedness plans at the central level and disaster management mechanisms, in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities;
7. Encourage and cooperate with relevant parties to integrate disaster management work into the national socio-economic development plan, as well as the development plans of various sectors;
8. Manage warehouse for the food and non-food items received from the Government, domestic and foreign assistance;
9. Mobilize and advocate for individual, entity, organization and all parts of society to participate and contribute support, in terms of money, vehicles, materials, labor and intellect, towards disaster management work;
10. Set plans, manage, and use budget and Disaster Management Fund to serve disaster management work;
11. Issue, defer or abolish agreements, orders, guidelines and acknowledgements on disaster management;
12. Monitor and inspect the implementation of disaster management work, in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities;
13. Receive and consider resolution to the proposals made by individual, entity or organizations on disaster management;
14. As the center for coordination, relations and cooperation with all parties, domestic, foreign and international organizations, ASEAN disaster management committee, on disaster management mainly in the area of disaster preparedness, operation of emergency response assistance and post-disaster recovery;
15. Regularly summarize and report results from implementation of disaster management work to the Government;
16. Perform other rights and duties according to the Law.

Article 60 Rights and Duties of Provincial, Capital City Department of Labor and Social Welfare

In disaster management work, the Provincial, Capital City Department of Labor and Social Welfare has the following rights and duties within their scope of responsibility:

1. Implement policies, strategies, laws, legislations under the law, plans, programs, and projects on disaster management work;
2. Advocate and disseminate policies, strategies, laws, sub-legislation, plans, programs and projects on disaster management work as well as raise awareness for the public to be informed and to understand;
3. Propose for human resource development on disaster management, in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities;
4. Collect, supply information and implement disaster management work, in cooperation with local departments and authorities;
5. Conduct disaster risk assessment, in order to serve and create disaster response preparedness plans and disaster management mechanisms, in cooperation with local departments and authorities;
6. Encourage and cooperate with relevant parties to integrate disaster management work into the socio-economic development plan, as well as the development plans of various departments;
7. Manage warehouse for food and non-food items received from the Government, domestic and foreign assistance;
8. Mobilize and advocate for individuals, entities, organizations and all parties to participate and contribute support, in terms of money, vehicles, equipment, materials, labor and intellect, towards disaster management work;
9. Set plans for the use of budget and Disaster Management Fund to serve disaster management work operation;
10. Issue, defer or abolish agreements, orders, guidelines and acknowledgements on disaster prevention and control;
11. Monitor and inspect the implementation of disaster management work, in cooperation with local departments and authorities;
12. Receive and resolve proposals made by individuals, entities or organizations on disaster management;
13. As the center for coordination, relations and cooperation with all parties, domestic, foreign and international organizations, on disaster

management mainly in the area of disaster preparedness, operation of emergency response assistance and post-disaster recovery, as assigned;

14. Regularly summarize and report results from the implementation of disaster management work to their respective higher authorities;
15. Perform other rights and duties according to the Law and as assigned.

Article 61 Rights and Duties of District, Municipality, City Office of Labor and Social Welfare

In the management of disaster work, the District, Municipality, City Office of Labor and Social Welfare has the following rights and duties, within their scope of responsibility:

1. Implement policies, strategies, laws, legislations under the law, plans, programs, and projects on disaster management work;
2. Disseminate policies, strategies, laws, legislations under the law, plans, programs and projects on disaster management work as well as raise awareness for all the public to be informed and understand;
3. Propose for human resource development on disaster management, in cooperation with relevant sectors and local authorities;
4. Collect, supply information and implement disaster management work, in cooperation with local offices and authorities;
5. Conduct disaster risk assessment, in order to create disaster response preparedness plans and disaster management mechanisms, in cooperation with local offices and authorities;
6. Encourage and cooperate with relevant parties to integrate disaster management work into the socio-economic development plan, as well as the development plans of various offices;
7. Manage warehouse for the food and non-food items received from domestic and foreign assistance;
8. Mobilize and advocate for individual, entity, organization and all parties to participate and contribute support, in terms of money, vehicles, equipment, materials, labor and intellect, towards disaster management work;
9. Set plans for the use of the budget and Disaster Management Fund to serve disaster management work operation;
10. Issue, defer or abolish agreements, orders, guidelines and acknowledgements on disaster management;

11. Monitor and inspect implementation of disaster management work, in cooperation with local offices and authorities;
12. Receive and consider resolution to the proposals made by individual, entity or organizations on disaster management;
13. Central to the coordination, relations and cooperation with all parties, on disaster management mainly in the area of disaster preparedness, operation of emergency response assistance and post-disaster recovery, as assigned;
14. Regularly summarize and report results from implementation of disaster management work to their respective higher authorities;
15. Perform other rights and duties according to the Law and as assigned.

Article 62 Rights and Duties of Other Sectors and Parties

Other sectors and parties have the right and duty to cooperate with Labor and Social Welfare sectors, according to their roles and responsibilities involved in disaster management work.

Chapter 2 Inspection of Disaster Work

Article 63 Disaster Work Inspection Organization

The Disaster Work Inspection Organization consists of:

1. Internal inspection organization is the same organization as the disaster work management organization, as determined in Article 58 of this law;
2. External inspection organization, which is the National Assembly, Provincial People's Assembly, Government Inspection Authority, State Audit Organization, Lao Front for National Development, Lao National Veteran Union, Mass Organizations, mass media and citizens.

Article 64 Contents for Inspection

The main contents for disaster work inspection are as follows:

1. Implementation of laws and regulations on disaster management work;
2. Performance of duty by government officials and employees on disaster management work;
3. Formulation and operation of plans on disaster management work.

Article 65 Forms of Inspection

There are three forms of inspection, as follows:

1. Regular inspection is a planned inspection, performed regularly, with definite timeframe;
2. Prior notice inspection is an unplanned inspection, when deemed necessary with prior notification for the target of inspection;
3. Unexpected inspection is an urgent inspection, without prior notification for the target of inspection.

The inspection must be performed strictly according to the Law.

Part IX

Policy for Outstanding Achievement and Measure Against Violators

Article 66 Policy for Outstanding Achievement

An individual, legal entity or organization with an outstanding achievement in implementation of this Law, mainly by contributing in the assistance of disaster affected people, shall receive recognition or other incentive according to regulations.

Article 67 Measure Against Violators

Individual, legal entity or organization that violates this Law, mainly the prohibitions, shall be subjected to re-education, disciplinary action, fine, civil procedure or criminal penalty.

Part X

Final Provision

Article 68 National Disaster Management Day

Lao PDR sets the 13th of October of every year as the National Disaster Management Day.

Each year, the central and local level shall commemorate such day appropriately in order to raise awareness for society and community to be mindful and be involved in disaster management work.

Article 69 Implementation

The Government of Lao P.D.R shall implement this Law.

Article 70 Effectiveness

This Law shall enter into force when the President of Lao P.D.R issues the promulgation decree and fifteen days after being published on the Official Gazette.
Any provisions that contradict this Law are repealed.

President of the National Assembly