

**Protocol to Implement the Fifth Package of Commitments on Financial Services
under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services**

**LAO PDR
SCHEDULE OF SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS**

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Modes of Supply: 1) Cross-border supply 2) Consumption aboard 3) Commercial presence 4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Subsector	Limitation on Market Access	Limitation on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
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I. HORIZONTAL COMMITMENTS			
ALL SECTORS INCLUDED IN THIS SCHEDULE	<p>3) Commercial presence of foreign service suppliers can be in the following form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A joint venture with one or more domestic Lao investors, - A wholly foreign-owned enterprise¹ - A branch or representative office <p>The commercial presence of foreign service supplier shall be subject to approval of the concerned competent authority and of licensing by the Foreign Investment Management committee of the Lao PDR.</p> <p>The joint venture is established and registered under the laws and regulations of the Lao PDR. It is jointly owned and operated by one or more legal foreign investors/service suppliers and by one or more legal domestic Lao investors.</p> <p>The activities and relationship of its parties shall be governed by the contract between its parties and the Joint Venture`s Articles of Association, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Lao PDR.</p>	<p>3) Foreign service suppliers in the Lao PDR may lease land within the Lao PDR and transfer their leasehold interest; and they may own improvements on land and other moveable property and transfer those ownership interest.</p> <p>Foreign enterprises subject to the Law on Promotion and Management of Foreign Investment in the Lao PDR shall pay an annual profit tax, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the applicable laws and regulations of the Lao PDR.</p> <p>Other Lao taxes, duties and fees shall also be payable in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the Lao PDR.</p>	

¹ 100% foreign invested Companies

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	<p>Foreign investors/service suppliers in a joint venture must contribute a minimum portion 30% of the total equity investment in that venture.</p> <p>The wholly foreign-owned enterprise is a foreign investment/service supplier registered under the laws and regulations of the Lao PDR. By one or more legal foreign investors without the participation of legal domestic Lao investors. The enterprise established in the Lao PDR may be either a new company or a branch or representative office of a foreign company. The incorporation and registration of a foreign investment shall be in conformity with the Enterprise/Business Law of the Lao PDR. The terms of operations of an enterprise with foreign owned capital and of a business cooperation contract shall be specified in the investment license of each project in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Lao PDR.</p>		

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	<p>The branch or representative office of a foreign company shall have articles of Association which shall be consistent with the laws and regulations and the Business Law of the Lao PDR and subject to the approval of the Foreign Investment Management Committee of the Lao PDR.</p> <p>4) Foreigners who work in Lao PDR shall be subject to the law on Promotion and Management of Foreign Investment in the Lao PDR and the regulations on immigration.</p> <p>However, foreign enterprises have the right to employ skilled and expert foreign personnel when necessary and with the approval of the competent authority of the Government of the Lao PDR.</p> <p>Facilitation for the entry into, travel within, stay within, and exit from the Lao territory of foreign investors/service suppliers, their foreign personnel, and the immediate family members of those investors, service suppliers and those personnel will be granted by the Government of the Lao PDR. All such persons are subject to and must obey the above mentioned laws and related</p>	<p>4) Foreign service suppliers and their foreign personnel working within the Lao PDR shall pay to the Lao Government personal income tax, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the applicable laws and regulations of the Lao PDR.</p>	

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	<p>regulations while they are on the Lao territory.</p> <p>Foreign investors/service supplies have an obligation to upgrade the skills of their Lao employees, through such techniques as training in the Lao PDR or abroad.</p>		