

No. 27490

FRANCE
and
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Agreement concerning a programme in the field of higher education—*National Polytechnic Institute Project*. Signed at Paris on 14 December 1989

Authentic texts: French and Laotian.

Registered by France on 7 August 1990.

FRANCE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE POPULAIRE LAO

Accord portant programme dans le domaine de l'enseignement supérieur — *Projet de l'Institut national polytechnique*. Signé à Paris le 14 décembre 1989

Textes authentiques : français et laotien.

Enregistré par la France le 7 août 1990.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ CONCERNING A PROGRAMME IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION — *NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE PROJECT* — BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Desiring to develop Franco-Lao cooperation in the field of higher technical education under the National Polytechnic Institute project and in the spirit of the Agreement on Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation of 29 May 1989,² have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall provide assistance to the National Polytechnic Institute of Vientiane (INP).

Article 2

To that end, the French Party shall, subject to the availability of budgetary resources, provide assistance to the Lao Party by:

- Making five experts available on a long-term basis in the following fields: electricity, mechanical engineering, civil engineering and industrial management and economics;
- Providing a French language laboratory and making French teachers available as the need arises;
- Making experts available on a short-term basis to provide educational support services;
- Securing educational support services from several French specialized *grandes écoles* in the following areas:
 - Reference material and documentation;
 - Scholarships for study and training courses;
 - The organization of conferences and seminars.

Article 3

This cooperation programme may be extended by agreement between the two Parties to cover any question relating to the development of INP:

- The creation of new departments;
- Additional equipment;

¹ Came into force on 14 December 1989 by signature, in accordance with article 13.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1583, No. I-27632.

- Various studies relating to higher technical education;
- Identification of experts of Lao origin.

Article 4

The teaching of French shall be included in the curricula of INP.

Article 5

BCEOM, a French engineering firm located at 15 square Max Hymans, 75741 Paris CEDES 15, shall be responsible for the implementation, coordination and monitoring of assistance provided by the French Party. However, BCEOM and the Paris Chamber of Commerce shall share responsibility for instruction in management.

Article 6

On the Lao side, the administrative and technical responsibility for such co-operation shall be entrusted to:

- The committee for the coordination and supervision of the INP project;
- The INP project bureau.

(Both these entities come under the Ministry of Education and Sports.)

Article 7

The two Parties undertake to facilitate exchanges between INP and similar French establishments.

Article 8

The Lao Party undertakes to exempt from any customs duties and import taxes any product imported in connection with the project. The Ministry of Education and Sports shall provide the Customs Administration of the Lao People's Democratic Republic with a letter stating the specific purpose for which any product is to be used.

Article 9

No material imported into the Lao People's Democratic Republic in connection with the project may be used for any other purposes unless the two Parties agree otherwise.

Article 10

The Lao personnel assigned to the project shall be designated by the Lao Party.

Article 11

The proposals for the appointment of French experts or teachers shall be submitted to the Lao authorities by the Ambassador of France to Vientiane for prior approval.

Article 12

The provisions of articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Agreement on Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation signed on 29 May 1989 shall also apply to the teachers, experts and technicians made available by the French Party.

Article 13

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and it shall remain in force for a period of five years and six months. This Agreement may be denounced by either Party on 12 months' notice.

DONE at Paris, on 14 December 1989, in duplicate in the French and Lao languages, the two texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

THIERRY DE BEAUCÉ

For the Government
of the Lao People's
Democratic Republic:

[Signed]

SOUBANH SRITHIRATH
