UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

No. 49/PR

DECREE
OF THE PRESIDENT
OF LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PROMULGATING THE LAW ON HYGIENE,
PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

- Based on Article 53.1, Chapter V, of the Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic,
- Pursuant to Resolution 04/NA, dated 10 April 2001, of the National Assembly of Lao People's Democratic Republic on the adoption of the Law on Hygiene, Prevention and Health Promotion,
- Referring to the letter 04/SC, dated 20 April 2001, of the National Assembly Standing Committee,

The President
Of Lao People's Democratic Republic decrees:

Article 1. The promulgation of the Law on Hygiene, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.

Article 2. This Presidential Decree is effective from the day it is signed.

Vientiane, 23 April 2001,
President of Lao PDR,
KHAMTAY SIPHANDONE
RESOLUTION
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
ON THE ADOPTION OF THE LAW ON HYGIENE,
PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

Based on Article 40.2 of the Constitution and Article 3.2 of the Law on the National Assembly of Lao People's Democratic Republic,
Referring to the Prime Minister's request 29/PM of 19 March 2001,

Following extended and intensive study and deliberation on the content of the Law on Hygiene, Prevention and Health Promotion by the 7th ordinary session of the National Assembly of the 4th Legislature, the morning session of 10 April 2001

Decided

Article 1. The adoption of the Law on Hygiene, Prevention and Health Promotion by unanimity.

Article 2. This resolution is effective from the day it is signed.

President of the National Assembly,
SAMAN VIGNAKET
UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

National Assembly No. 01/A
Date: 10 April 2001

LAW ON HYGIENE, PREVENTION
AND HEALTH PROMOTION

Chapter I
General Provisions

Article 1. Purposes of the Law on Hygiene, Health Prevention and Promotion

The Law on Hygiene, Health Prevention and Promotion sets out the principles, regulations and measures related to the organization and activities of hygiene, health protection and promotion to ensure the population’s health, quality of life and longevity in contribution to national defense and development.

Article 2. Definition

Strong health refers to good physical, moral and social health not only with regards to the lack of diseases or disabilities. Strong health represents a precious capital, a fundamental right and obligation of all citizens, households, and of the society as a whole, and is a basic pre-condition for education, production and happy livelihood.

Hygiene refers to the control of elements in the surrounding environment representing a threat or potential hazard to humans’ physical, moral and social health, such as personal hygiene, nutritional hygiene, hygiene in lifestyle, clothing and others as provided under Article 8 of this Law.

Disease prevention refers to the application of efficient measures and procedures to prevent the occurrence of diseases or restrict their spread and reduce their severity and hazard.

Health promotion refers to the process of increasing knowledge, skills and awareness in managing, caring and developing personal, family, collective and social health through behavioral improvements, building favorable conditions and outlining principles in applying measures to improve a health-centered lifestyle based primarily on health education.

Health hazards refer to acts or lifestyles likely to entail sickness or diseases. The population’s health may be ensured only when health hazards are avoided, reduced or prevented.
Article 3. Rights and Obligations of Citizens in Health Care

All citizens without differentiation by ethnic, gender, age, economic and social status have the right to benefit from health services and have the obligation to preserve their personal, family, social and national health, and contribute to hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion.

Article 4. Responsibilities of the State towards Citizens’ Health

The Government gives importance and attention to the care and promotion of the pluri-ethnic people’s health by providing knowledge, information, and through mobilization and development of hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion by both the public and private sectors, promoting participation from communities and the private sector in the provision of widespread and quality health services.

Article 5. Promotion of Investment in Hygiene, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

The Government promotes investment by all socio-economic sectors, both domestic and foreign, in hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion by setting appropriate policies, regulations and measures in line with the legislation of the Lao PDR.

Article 6. International Cooperation

The Government promotes the development of international cooperation in exchanging experiences, training and providing assistance in hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion.

Chapter II
Hygiene

Article 7. Importance of Hygiene

Hygiene is a fundamental activity in the health sector, which aims at preventing diseases and promoting health throughout the society. It is important in the humans’ daily life. Good hygiene will avoid diseases, ensure longevity and a good quality of life.

Persons, families and communities are required to apply strict hygiene.

Article 8. Elements of Hygiene

Hygiene includes personal, family and community hygiene, water, food and consumption hygiene, hygiene of buildings, hotels and guesthouses, schools and educational institutions, hospitals, dispensaries and clinics, hygiene in production, labor, construction and maintenance sites, public places, markets, funerals, the environment and others.
Article 9. Personal Hygiene

Personal hygiene refers to physical and moral nourishment to avoid sickness or diseases and allow a normal social livelihood.

All persons are required to ensure the cleanliness of one’s own body, food, water, rejects, apparels, bed, labor and rest, including proper sexual intercourse in accordance with the principles of hygiene.

Article 10. Family Hygiene

Family hygiene refers to ensuring the hygiene and health of all family members.

Each family is required to build conditions to ensure access to clean water, nutritious and safe food, hygienic latrines, appropriately clean clothes, immunization of children through injections and drops, health control and treatment during sickness, the three principles of hygiene, education on the threat of smoking tobacco and drinking alcohol, and the prevention of narcotics and sexually transmitted diseases.

Article 11. Community Hygiene

Community hygiene refers to the joint preservation of cleanliness within a group, neighborhood, village, chief-town or town.

All persons in a community have the obligation to dispose solid and liquid waste, preserve the cleanliness of water sources, water, roads, drains, public places to avoid the occurrence of diseases and ensure orderliness and beauty for their own health and the health of the whole society.

Article 12. Water Hygiene

Consumption and drinking water hygiene refers to seeking clean water for daily drinking and use.

The daily used water must originate from sources such as water supply systems, wells, rainwater, artesian wells, gravity fed water supply, water sources, hot water sources, rivers, streams and others, which cleanliness must be guaranteed.

Drinking water must originate from these sources, but must be properly boiled, distilled, produced and serviced according to technical criteria and its hygiene guaranteed on the basis of principles outlined by the Ministry of Public Health.

Article 13. Food and Consumer Goods’ Hygiene

Food and consumer goods’ hygiene refers to the control and supervision of food and consumer goods’ cleanliness and safety from germs, worms and toxic chemical substances affecting health and physical growth in humans’ livelihood.
Persons and organizations processing food, food products, packaging, preserving, removing and providing services related to food shall guarantee proper quality according to production criteria and hygiene.

Producers or sellers of food shall be required to undergo and obtain a health certificate beforehand. Persons with transmittable diseases are forbidden to conduct activities related to food in view of preventing the spread of such disease.

Locally produced or imported food and consumer goods shall be inspected by the authorities concerned in line with the laws of Lao PDR.

Article 14. Hygiene of Buildings

The hygiene of buildings refers to the preservation of cleanliness and orderliness of houses, offices, and spaces under and around houses to ensure safe conditions for livelihood and work.

Buildings must be located in clean areas to ensure protection from transmittable diseases, pollutants and other disturbances.

To ensure the proper cleanliness of buildings according to hygienic principles, the interior of houses and offices shall be provided with sufficient light and air. They shall be cleaned regularly, equipped with latrines, cans or bins to collect wastes, and proper drainage facilities in accordance with the principles of hygiene. Solid and liquid wastes shall be regularly disposed. Keeping animals under the house shall be avoided, and such animals should be kept in specific areas and not left stray in public places. Harvests shall be kept in proper premises.

Persons and organizations shall be responsible for the hygiene of buildings, houses, and offices to ensure their constant orderliness.

Article 15. Hygiene of Hotels and Guesthouses

The hygiene of hotels and guesthouses refers to keeping hotels and guesthouses clean and in order.

Hotels and guesthouses must be located in appropriate areas safe from transmittable diseases, accidents, disturbances and hazards.

Rooms shall be in sufficient and appropriate number for guests, with sufficient light, air and hygiene, and equipped with latrines in sufficient number and meeting the hygiene requirements, bathrooms, lavatories, waste water-draining facilities, garbage bins, proper waste disposal system and sufficient water supply.

Persons and organizations shall be responsible for the preservation of cleanliness and orderliness of hotels and guesthouses and for implementing the hygiene rules outlined by the Government.
Article 16. Hygiene of Schools and Educational Institutions

Hygiene of schools and educational institutions refers to keeping schools and educational institutions clean, tidy and in order.

Schools and educational institutions shall be established at locations safe from epidemics, accidents and hazards, and shall be equipped with sports grounds and resting-places.

Buildings of schools and educational institutions shall be of an appropriate area with the number of students, and shall be equipped with sufficient light and air and tables and chairs adequate with the students’ age.

Teachers, students and the relevant organizations shall guarantee that schools and educational institutions are kept constantly clean, supplied with clean water and hygienic latrines and the necessary facilities. Moreover, the students’ health examination shall be organized.

Crèches and kindergartens shall apply the same principles. Children under 5 years shall be fully immunized and given drops.

Article 17. Hygiene of Hospitals, Dispensaries and Clinics

The hygiene of hospitals, dispensaries and clinics refers to keeping premises where services are provided to examine, diagnose, treat, rehabilitate, protect and promote the population’s health clean and in order.

Hospitals, dispensaries and clinics shall be clean, tidy, hygienic, and void from germs from likely to spread from patients, instruments, tools and medical equipment.

Hospitals, dispensaries and clinics shall be equipped with latrines, sufficient water supply, waste water recycling systems, waste classification, storage and disposal system in accordance with the hygiene rules.

Article 18. Labor Hygiene

Labor hygiene refers to ensuring working conditions with the view of preserving the workers’ health in the sectors of industry, agriculture, handicraft and others from diseases, toxic chemicals, radioactivity hazardous to health or life of workers and surrounding persons.

Employers shall provide safety equipment to workers, and shall ensure the hygiene of working premises. More specifically, sufficient light and air, the appropriate temperature, humidity, vibration, sounds, smell and dust within the standards provided under regulations shall be ensured.
Workers shall receive health examination and treatment in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Law, especially in sectors of health hazardous activities.

Article 19. Production Hygiene

Production hygiene refers to ensuring conditions and standards in the production of consumption goods, especially of daily consumption goods, children’s toys and cosmetics to avoid the spread of germs and toxic chemicals potentially hazardous to the consumers’ health.

Persons and organizations producing the above-mentioned consumption goods shall guarantee technical production standards, waste disposal management techniques and hygiene to avoid threat to human health and the environment.

It is forbidden to release waste, chemicals or waste water from factories and plants, including from other production sites into water bodies or elsewhere without going through a recycling process.

Article 20. Hygiene of Construction and Maintenance Sites

The hygiene of construction and maintenance sites refers to the implementation of necessary measures and methods in the construction or maintenance of roads and buildings or activities by ensuring hygiene to prevent hazards to the health or life of workers and of the neighboring population or passers-by.

To ensure the safety, cleanliness and facility at the construction or maintenance sites, the owner or person responsible for the construction or maintenance site shall install warning signs, fences, curtains or nets around such sites or provide watering to prevent construction materials, dirt or dust falling or flying outside the construction or maintenance sites.

Article 21. Hygiene of Public Places

The hygiene of public places refers to keeping places reserved for the public gathering, entertainment and rest, such as temples, sacred sites, monuments, public parks, tourism areas, theaters, sport grounds, airports, ports, markets, parking lots, roads and other places of events clean and in order.

Persons and organizations shall be responsible for strictly complying with the rules set in relation with public places and keep such places constantly clean and in order.

Article 22. Hygiene of Markets

Hygiene of markets refers to the implementation of necessary measures and methods to keep markets clean, safe and in order with the view of ensuring the hygiene of each type of commodity placed for sale.
Markets shall be placed at appropriate locations and distanced from sources of dirt, cemeteries and animal rearing areas. Markets shall cover a wide area and easily accessible, with permanent structures, sufficient light and air, equipped with a waste water disposal, waste storage and disposal system, a fire protection system, water supply and clean latrines in sufficient number. Markets shall also be equipped with guaranteed parking lots, and a proper system for the disposition of commodities, such as dry food, fresh food, daily consumption goods and others.

Persons and organizations bringing commodities for sale in the market shall be responsible for ensuring the required hygiene.

Article 23. Hygiene of Funerals

Hygiene in funerals refers to keeping the corpse’s hygiene to prevent the spread of germs during its preservation, removal, burial or incineration.

Corpses must be injected with phormol, covered and placed in coffins to prevent bad smell or the spread of germs. Corpses of persons who suffered from transmittable diseases may not be kept for a prolonged period of time. When removing, incinerating, burying corpses, hygiene shall be guaranteed. Corpses may not be incinerated or buried near community settlements or sources of water.

The removal of corpses or ashes through the territory of Lao PDR shall require approval from the Government.

Article 24. Environmental Hygiene

Environmental hygiene refers to the methods applied to improve the relations between the environment and humans in terms of physical, moral and social health.

In addition to the hygiene mentioned above, persons and organizations shall guarantee the hygiene of animals, slaughterhouses, streams, and shall control pollution, vectors of diseases, and disturbances such as smell, fumes, and dust.

Persons, families, collectives and organizations shall preserve and develop environmental hygiene to protect their own and other persons’ health.

Animals may not be reared or left stray in public areas. Waste, corpses, dirt or chemicals may not be released into streams, water bodies, roads and sources of germs must be restricted or destroyed.

The release of smells, fumes, dust and the use of light, sound and vibrations shall meet the standards outlined under the Environment Protection Law to avoid affecting health.

Chapter III
Prevention of Diseases
Article 25. Importance of Disease Prevention

Prevention of diseases refers to activities, acts, measures or methods aiming at restricting the occurrence of diseases or, when occurring, restricting its violence and spread.

The Government considers prevention as a major activity and an activity belonging to the community as a whole, that is of the whole society.

All persons, families, communities, social organizations have the duty and responsibility to actively initiate and contribute to the prevention of diseases.

Article 26. Elements of Disease Prevention

Disease prevention is comprised of the following activities:

1. Prevention and control of transmittable diseases, that is restricting the occurrence of diseases in relation with individuals, its spread from one person to another within a community, from animals to humans and from one place to another.

Persons, families, the administrative authorities and all organizations in the society shall abide by the principles of restricting and controlling transmittable diseases. When symptoms of epidemics are apparent in a region, measures shall be urgently outlined and the situation urgently reported to higher authorities for timely solutions.

2. Preventive immunization or administration of drops refers to the build-up of physical immune system among the pluri-ethnic people by using vaccines in the form of injections and drops to prevent diphtheria, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, whooping cough and other diseases.

All women and children must receive disease preventing immunization and drops in the prescribed time, place and according to the outlined regulations.

3. The prevention of non-transmittable diseases refers to an appropriate behavior or lifestyle to avoid non-transmittable diseases, such as avoid smoking to prevent the risk of lung cancer, avoid excessive alcohol consumption to prevent diseases and accidents, engaging in physical gymnastics and sports to prevent heart and other diseases.

Chapter IV
Health Promotion

Article 27. Importance of Health Promotion

Health promotion is a fundamental government policy aiming at building an environment favorable to health for all.
All citizens have the duty and responsibility of improving their health.

All authorities shall contribute, jointly with the health authorities, to the promotion and building of conditions favorable for public health promotion.

Article 28. Elements of Health Promotion

Health promotion includes health education, mother and child health care, youth and reproductive health care, health care for the elderly, invalid and disabled persons, nutrition, sports, gymnastics and arts, the provision of public parks, green spaces in urban areas and resting areas where possible.

Article 29. Health Education

Health education refers to the process of education through the provision of information and knowledge on health issues to all citizens to ensure understanding and awareness of hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion, which would likely improve the views, behavior and lifestyle of persons, families and communities and strengthen their health.

Health, education, culture and information, mass media and other organizations in society, whether public or private, are responsible for providing health education and knowledge to the population on a regular basis and in a diversified manner.

Health education shall be included in school curricula.

Article 30. Mother and Child Health Care

Mother and child health care is an important policy of the Government and a core activity of the health sector, as well as the obligation of all persons and more specifically of the children’s fathers.

All mothers and children are entitled to receive health services according to the Government’s policy, which comprises hygiene, prevention, health promotion, treatment and rehabilitation before marriage, during pregnancy, before and after childbirth. Children shall receive care in all cases, including twins and children with anomalies at birth from their birth to school age, youth and reproductive age to ensure full physical, moral, and social health to both mothers and children.

Women in their youth and reproductive age shall undergo health control and immunization as required by the regulations. During pregnancy, examinations, monitoring shall be provided. Any risk discovered shall require preventive measures and hard labor shall be avoided. Before and after childbirth, rest shall be prescribed as appropriate and in accordance with the legislation. Childbirth shall take place in hospitals, dispensaries or at home under the care of medical personnel or traditional midwives. During pre- and post-partum, sufficient nutrition shall be ensured.
Newly born infants shall be fed mainly by breastfeeding, and shall receive complete immunization and drops.

To ensure the mother’s health, childbirth should be spaced.

Article 31. Youth and Reproductive Health Care

Youth and reproductive age are ages of physical and intellectual growth. Youth and reproductive health care plays an important role in ensuring the full physical, intellectual and moral health of people in their youth and reproductive age.

Persons in their youth and reproductive age shall receive education in ideology, politics and revolutionary qualities, and shall be encouraged to undertake education, sports, arts, literature and culture.

Focus shall be placed on the education of people in their youth and reproductive age to understand the policies of childbirth spacing and safe sex, pregnancy and birth, and restriction of marriage before legal age.

Families, schools, professional and social organizations, whether public and private, shall provide education and encourage people in their youth and reproductive age in the above-mentioned fields. At the same time, education shall also be provided on the benefit in avoiding smoking and alcohol, glue sniffing, consumption of narcotics, hooliganism and others.

Article 32. Health Care for Elderly, Invalid and Disabled Persons

Elderly, invalid and disabled persons are persons with diminished strength and force and health. Therefore, a close monitoring of their health is required.

Families, organizations and the society shall ensure health care for elderly persons, persons with merits towards the nation, heroes, combatants, invalid and disabled persons, mentally disabled persons by providing appropriate health examination and treatment services, as well as conditions for elderly, invalid and disabled persons to lead an appropriate livelihood and rest, and contribute to social activities.

Article 33. Nutrition

Nutrition refers to the consumption of beneficial and safe food ensuring physical and intellectual growth.

To ensure strong health, each citizen should promote complete food consumption, which includes protein (meat, fish, soybean...), flour, sugar, fat and minerals (vegetables and fruits). The consumption of health hazardous food – such as, sick animals, rotten food, food containing toxic chemicals – is forbidden.

Article 34. Sports, Gymnastics and Arts
Sports, gymnastics and arts are important for all gender and age in promoting their health, longevity, happiness and physical immunity.

The Government shall build conditions and organize all sectors’ participation to sports, gymnastics and artistic performances under varied categories, forms and levels.

Sports, gymnastics and arts shall be included in the curricula of schools of all levels.

Article 35. Public Parks, Green Spaces and Resting Areas

To ensure widespread health promotion, public parks, green spaces and resting areas are required.

Villages, districts, provinces, the municipality, special zone, offices and densely populated areas should arrange for public parks, conserve and plant trees in substantial number to ensure clean and fresh air, as well as resting areas for health rehabilitation.

Chapter V
Organization of Hygiene, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Article 36. Organization of Hygiene, Prevention and Health Promotion

Hygiene, prevention and health promotion are fundamental, central and priority activities in public health, which require encouragement and promotion through contributions from individuals, public and private organizations to meet the society’s needs in terms of hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion.

Article 37. Investment

The Government promotes different economic and social sectors, whether local and foreign, to invest in hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion in diversified forms, such as through the establishment and operation of revolving funds for clean water supply, latrine, impregnated mosquito nets, resting areas and others.

Article 38. Social Contributions

All persons and organizations have the duty to contribute to hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion in the form of labor, funding and intellect for the establishment of resting areas, promotion of sports, gymnastics and arts, building of public parks, green spaces and organization of health foundations, and participating to the activities mentioned above.

Article 39. Scientific Research
Scientific research on hygiene, prevention and health promotion refers to seeking information on causes of illness, diseases, health risks, including preventive, restrictive measures and solutions to such causes.

Scientific research on hygiene, prevention and health promotion shall require authorization from the Ministry of Public Health and a report on the results of experimental research.

Chapter VI
Management and Supervision of Hygiene, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Article 40. Agencies in Charge of Managing and Supervising Hygiene, Prevention and Health Promotion

Agencies managing and supervising hygiene, prevention and health promotion include:

1. The health sector, which comprises:
   - The Ministry of Public Health;
   - Province, Municipality and Special Zone Health Departments;
   - District Health Offices.

2. Other sectors concerned.

To efficiently organize such activities, health committees shall be organized at the provincial, district and village levels. Such committees shall be assisted by a staff in managing hygiene, prevention and health promotion activities.

Article 41. Rights and Duties of Agencies in Charge of Managing and Supervising Hygiene, Prevention and Health Promotion

The health sector, through the Ministry of Public Health as the macro-level administration agency, has the right and duty to outline the necessary policies, plans, regulations, rules and technical standards, and guide all levels within its sector in coordinating actual implementation with other sectors concerned. It shall periodically control, monitor and assess the efficiency in the nationwide implementation of hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion. It shall ensure the proper, widespread and strict implementation of laws and regulations pertaining to hygiene, prevention and health promotion.

Other sectors concerned shall have the duty to participate to the efficient organization and implementation of hygiene, prevention and health promotion activities.
Health committees at each level shall have the duty to organize the implementation of hygiene, prevention and health promotion activities within the scope of their assigned roles.

Article 42. Inspection of Hygiene, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Inspection of hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion refers to monitoring and controlling activities related to the proper implementation of rules on hygiene, health risks, hygiene, pollution control and measures provided under the laws and regulations for the purpose of ensuring efficient hygiene, prevention and health promotion.

Article 43. Types of Inspection

Inspection of hygiene, prevention and health promotion is comprised of three forms:

1. Routine inspection;
2. Inspection based on advance notice;
3. Inspection without advance notice.

Routine inspection refers to inspections performed regularly according to plans and at pre-determined times.

Inspections with advance notice refers to inspection not included in the plan and performed when deemed necessary and for which advance notice is given.

Inspection without advance notice refers to sudden inspection without advance knowledge by the targets of such type of inspection.

In controlling the status of hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion, inspectors shall duly and strictly abide by the laws and regulations.

Chapter VII

Awards and Sanctions

Article 44. Awards

Persons or organizations acting as examples in actively participating to hygiene, prevention and health promotion activities shall be awarded or benefit from treatments to be determined in detail by the Government.

Article 45. Sanctions

Persons or organizations breaching this Law or regulations on hygiene, prevention and health promotion shall be educated, fined or sentenced on criminal charges according to the nature of such breach.
Article 46. Educational Measures

Persons or organizations guilty of minor breaches to this Law or regulations on hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion shall be given warnings and subjected to educational measures, such as in case of failing to keep the three principles of hygiene, rearing or keeping animals under houses, failing to keep the house yard and drains clean, allowing the breed of mosquitoes spreading diseases, the absence of latrines, failing to ensure the immunization of their children as required by health regulations and others as provided under this Law.

Article 47. Fines

Persons or organizations shall be fined in the following cases:

1. Persons subject to educational measures and warnings as provided under Article 46 above up to two times without any improvement.
2. Persons disposing or releasing wastes, animal carcass, chemicals into streams, rivers, in public parks, roads or other places.
3. Persons breaching any provision under Article 12 to Article 24 of this Law.

Fines shall be determined under separate regulations.

Article 48. Criminal Sanctions

Any breach to this Law and regulations on hygiene, disease prevention and health promotion entailing casualty to human health or life, such as the failure to set up protective measures at construction or maintenance sites, thereby allowing injury or death from falling construction materials; the disposal of animal carcass, chemicals into streams or water sources, thereby causing sickness and diseases; the production of consumer goods, children toys, cosmetics containing toxic chemical substances or germs hazardous to human health or life, shall be prosecuted on criminal charges according to the nature of such breach.

Chapter VIII
Final Provisions

Article 49. Implementation

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic shall implement this Law.

Article 50. Effectiveness

This Law shall become effective within one hundred and twenty days from the date the President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issues its promulgating decree.

Any rules and decrees inconsistent with this Law are superseded.
President of the National Assembly
SAMAN VIGNAKET