

Joint Network Cocktail of



ECCIL

10th Network Cocktail Meeting on December 6th, 2012

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December 7, 2012

Selected Internal Developments since October, 2012

- Participation in Trade and Private Sector Development Working Group
- Consultation meeting with LNCCI and associations about draft labour law
- Meetings with British and Belgian ambassadors
- EU-ASEAN Business Council Meeting Oct. 20, 21 in Bangkok
- Meeting of EU trade counselors hosted (Nov. 2nd)
- Training about support mechanisms of the German portfolio (Nov. 13-15)
- Participation in World Wide EBO meeting (Nov. 26-28, Kuala Lumpur)
- Negotiations with Vejthani Hospital for membership discount
- Temporary additional task: advising the board of LNCCI

AEBF successfully completed

- About 40 high class panelists
- Event was heavily overbooked, approx 300 participants admitted
- Participants from 30 countries, biggest European Delegation from France
- Joint breakfast with heads of government / heads of state (Australia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos, Bulgaria) and several ministers
- Good media coverage (ABC, DPA, TV 5, Wall Street Journal, Xinhua, Nippon TV, The Economist, etc.)
- Very good feedback from panelists and participants

Selected Developments (ongoing and near future) with support from German Government

- Investment Guide
- Salary Study
- Study about companies in Lao with European background
- Study / consultancy for portfolio expansion
- Setting up of curricula and training modules for basic training in book-keeping/accounting and office management
- Training on Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)
- Additional hardware support under negotiation
- Acquisition of business delegations under negotiation

Selected Future Activities

- Seminar on Taxes (joint activity with ANZBA, AmCham) on Dec. 17
- Reception of Franco-German Delegation Dec. 17 – 19: MoUs to be signed
- Bid for (junior) participation in SWITCH project (Access to finance in hospitality sector) in December
- Financial agreement to be signed with GIZ before mid-December
- ECCIL closed between Dec. 24th and Jan. 1st
- General Assembly tentatively end of January
- RIA training in February together with LNCCI, MoIC, MPI, MoF
- Strategic partnership with GIZ for private sector development
- European Food Festival in May
- Job Fair together with LNCCI in May

Changes in the Business Environment

- Legal environment

- Clarification on the requirements for FDI in general business
- Labour law in parliament (advocacy input given together with LNCCI)
- Profit tax on imports introduced and put on hold
- Company registration via MoIC clarified
- Decentralization process
- Draft law on industrial processing

- Others

- ECCIL enhances cooperation with foreign chambers in Lao and abroad
- ECCIL has become official member of EU-ASEAN Business Council
- British embassy opened