

Signature of a comprehensive cooperation agreement between ECCIL and LNCCI

The signing ceremony of the cooperation agreement between the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LNCCI) and the European Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lao PDR (ECCIL) was held on 29 August 2014, at the ECCIL's office, 5th floor, BFL building.

Both chambers share already a history of successfully implemented joint projects like the organization of the AEBF in 2012, a variety of trainings and workshops, advocacy work, capacity building and study tours. Next month they will jointly publish the Business Confidence Assessment for Lao PDR.

The purpose of this agreement is to provide a framework for even deeper and broader cooperation between LNCCI and ECCIL, through which both chambers support each other in their business activities and their efforts to improve the business environment in Lao PDR, thus making the country and its business community better prepared for the coming AEC. Some of the planned joint activities of the partners related to private sector development programmes like "RELATED" which is implemented by the German Development agency GIZ and to establish the closer economic cooperation on particular activities. Other activities will include major conferences and the provision of trainings and workshops for the business community.

The cooperation agreement was signed by Mr. Oudet Souvannavong, Vice president of LNCCI and Mr. Paul Simcock, Vice president of ECCIL.

Mr. Paul Simcock welcomed the opportunity of the signature of the cooperation agreement to acknowledge the important contribution that LNCCI can make on trade related and business development issues. He expressed optimism about the possibility for both organizations to successfully collaborate on business affairs and to offer high quality services that are designed to effectively address the needs and concerns of the members of the two business organizations.

Mr. Oudet Souvannavong congratulated ECCIL on its past achievements like the publication of an investment guide and a salary survey for Lao PDR and its development into a respected organization with international outreach. He welcomed the importance ECCIL has placed on trade facilitation and investment promotion within its operational framework. Mr. Oudet stressed that he was looking forward to jointly implement activities that boost foreign and domestic investment in Lao PDR and to develop services that increase the international competitiveness of the country and its business community.