

Dear Members,

We are getting close to EuroCham Laos' Annual Meeting 2023! On behalf of the Executive Committee, I already now wish you all a very warm welcome to Settha Palace on Wednesday, March 29, at 17:30!

**The Annual Meeting is Your Meeting!** The annual meeting is your meeting and your opportunity to form the future of your Chamber, how your business interests will be advocated, how your membership fees are spent and how we best can serve you. Don't miss this occasion to Make Your Voice Heard!

**A Chamber in Transformation!** The present Executive Committee has started transferring the Chamber from a project supported Chamber, to a Chamber that, through its own means and efforts, will be long term financially viable. This situation is not unique to our chamber, as most European chambers in the region have had to go through the same process. Years 2023 and 2024 will be a direct extension of the last two years' work and crucial for completing this transformation.

**The Strength Lies in Numbers!** One of the most important functions of the Chamber is to advocate its members interests with the Government of Laos. The more members a Chamber represents, the stronger its voice is!

**A Chamber Representing all European States!** The Chamber is representing all European states and thereby also the member states of the European Union. The European Union accounts for some 14% of the world's trade in goods making it the second biggest player on the World Market, only surpassed by China.

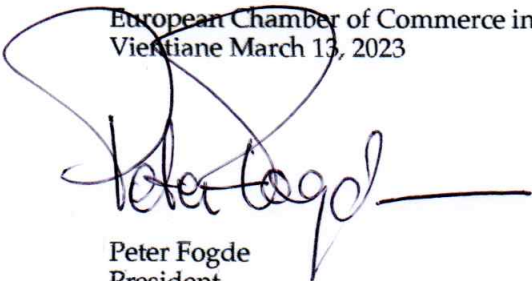
**Common Business Goals and Multinational Cultural Values!** We all have common goals, fruitful and responsible business operations in Laos, as well as a flourishing trade between Europe and Laos. At the same time, we represent a wide range of nationalities with different national and regional cultural values. This cultural and business diversity of our members is a treasure to be safeguarded!

**A Diversified Executive Committee!** The current Executive Committee is possibly the most diverse the Chamber has had since it was founded, representing seven different nationalities and a wide range of business activities. The incoming Executive Committee will be setting the future direction of the Chamber and should continue to build on this diversification. It's your task, at the Annual Meeting, to make this happen!

**Amended Articles of Association!** The LNCCL, on behalf of the Government, requires us to add a paragraph on Rights and Duties of the Chamber to our present Articles of Association. We have now, after constructive discussions with LNCCL, added one paragraph that strengthens the Chamber's right to officially represent you and Make Your Voice heard in negotiations and other events organized by the Government.

Looking forward to meeting you all on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March!

European Chamber of Commerce in Laos  
Vientiane March 13, 2023



Peter Fogde  
President