

Resolution of the 9th Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party

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The 9th National Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party ran from March 17-21, 2011, in Vientiane and was attended by 576 delegates representing 191,780 Party members nationwide.

The congress tabled, discussed and adopted important issues of the Party and the nation in an atmosphere of positivity, cohesion and solidarity, and concluded with sound outcomes as follows:

The congress discussed in depth and unanimously adopted the Political Report of the 8th Party Central Committee presented to the 9th Congress by Party Secretary General Choummaly Sayasone.

The congress agreed with the assessment of the implementation of the solution adopted by the 8th Congress, particularly the outstanding achievements made in the national defense and security tasks, socio-economic development, improvements to and consolidation of state administration systems, the united front and mass affairs of the Party, foreign affairs, international integration, and Party and personnel building.

The achievements made over the past five years have laid a foundation to further boost the growth of our country along the set roadmap and destination.

Delegates contributed frank opinions on the shortcomings of the Party's leadership, which caused the implementation of focal work in some areas to fail to achieve set targets, particularly the shortcomings in leadership and supervision attributed to the slow translation of guidelines into detailed plans and projects by line agencies and local organizations .

This caused time consuming delays in implementation, particularly regarding issues of rural development associated with production promotion on a commercial basis to alleviate poverty. Additionally, economic growth is not sustainably strong as it is still based primarily on the mining sector and exports of raw natural resources. Other shortcomings included development in some areas of the social sector failing to meet set targets, and socially negative behaviors increasing.

The congress called for acceleration to intensively address the shortcomings in order to bring positive change in implementing the Party's guidelines.

The congress clearly specified the causes resulting in the shortcomings and later adopted the conclusion of lessons learnt into the implementation of the Party's guidelines. The five-point above mentioned lessons learnt are regarded as important for the further leadership

and supervisory role of the Party in general, and Party committees at all levels across the country.

The lessons learnt are as follows:

1. The strengthening of cohesive solidarity of all Lao people and unity within the Party are the basic factors to guaranteeing political stability and are associated with the creation of a social environment of security, safety and order, which are all basically important conditions for successfully implementing the nation's two strategic tasks and international integration.

2. A need for enhancement of the role and ruling capacity of the Party to meet requirements in all sectors, particularly the leadership and supervision of all state organizations in translating the Party's general guidelines and directions into detailed plans and projects in a correct and timely manner that is compatible with the potential and peculiarities of each locality.

Additionally, the enhancement of the potential of the economic sector and the people of all social strata to participate in the implementation is an essential condition for the successful execution of the Party's guidelines.

3. Greater supervisory command coupled with unity and deep manners by Party committees at each level and each sector across the country, combined with attention to nurturing and enhancing the knowledge and competence of officials and the follow up and motivation of Party members and officials to uphold their exemplary roles in implementing their duty with a high sense of responsibility to guarantee the successful implementation of the Party's guidelines.

4. Focus work on projects at the grassroots level continuously, regularly monitoring compatibility with local peculiarities and conducting regular assessments of each step of work. Define problems in accordance with reality and in association with rapid, vigilant and confident decision making to address issues. Praising and rewarding those with good performance in a timely manner is important to implementing the Party's guidelines successfully.

5. A consistent foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and constant cooperation, together with internal improvements for domestic strength and intensive commitment to fulfill obligations and commitments to create trust and be a good cooperation partner with international friends. This is the essential condition to attract support, assistance and cooperation from international friends in order to implement and realize the Party's guidelines.

Based on important achievements in several aspects made over the past five years, the congress affirmed the decision made to lead the nation towards prosperity and strength, lead the people towards prosperity and create a cohesive and conciliatory society with democracy, justice, and civilization under the slogan 'Enhancing the cohesive solidarity of the Lao nation and unity within the Party, Upholding the leadership role and capacity of the Party, Devising a

breakthrough approach for the implementation of the renovation policy, Creating a solid basis for lifting our nation from underdevelopment by 2020, and Advancing further towards the goal of socialism’.

1. Consolidate and secure political stability based on the improvement and consolidation of the people’s democratic regime under the leadership of the Party with democratic manners; cohesive unity of the entire nation, solidarity and concord among ethnic groups; assure social order and security fundamentally.
2. Constant, steady national economic growth of 8 percent or above per year. By 2015, income per capita is targeted to reach US\$1,700; development has been made in a sustainable direction because social and cultural development has been made, associated with economic development while protecting the environment, creating basic factors towards industrialization and modernization .
3. By 2015, reduce the poverty rate of poor families to no more than 10 percent of all families nationwide; ensure that all Lao people finish compulsory primary education, most of them graduate from lower secondary school, and life expectancy reaches 68.3 years on average; attain the Millennium Development Goals. Value of the national culture is preserved and enhanced further.
4. Laos has a wide range of international friends, and is capable of participating in regional and international integration in a very active manner, and actively contributes to the building of peace, friendship, and cooperation for development.

The congress reached consensus that the targets adopted are critical to attain in order to create a foundation from which Laos can graduate from its status as a least developed country by 2020, and advance further towards industrialization and modernization with sustainability.

In order to achieve the targets, the congress adopted general directives and duties, as follows: Embrace leadership in implementing six renovation principles in a comprehensive and proper manner, exhibit creativeness in exploring centralized potential associated with seizing advantages by creating a four-point breakthrough approach. The four breakthrough approaches are as follows:

1. Breakthrough in thinking by unlocking and addressing the characteristics of stereotype, irresponsibility, left extremes and right extremes.
2. Breakthrough in human resources development, particularly the upgrading and nurturing of knowledge and competence of officials in all aspects to meet the growing development requirements.

3. Breakthrough in improving management and governance regulations and systems in order to address obstacles which still hinder business and service operations.

4. Breakthrough in poverty eradication by mobilizing all possible financial sources associated with devising special incentive policy, and developing socio-economic infrastructure to drive development in other areas.

The congress called for acceleration in putting the four breakthrough approaches into implementation simultaneously in a harmonious manner. The congress assigned the Party Central Committee and Party committees at all levels to supervise the implementation with uniform and broad coverage.

The congress approved focal duties and directives to be undertaken over the next five years as follows:

1. Economics: embrace and continue to implement focal works as follows:

1.1. Embrace socioeconomic development as the central driving force, enhance the potential of all economic sectors aiming at broadening production, transform the natural resource-based economy into a commercial based economy, and establish a market-oriented economy in line with socialist direction.

1.2. Strengthen capacity and effectiveness in economic management by the state; improve procedures, systems and mechanisms on economic management for better stimulation.

1.3. Focus work to eradicate poverty at the fundamental level by having in place incentive policy and measurements to boost greater production on a commercial basis, assure positive-obvious change in rural development through the establishment of more development village clusters.

1.4. Enhance complex agro production; ensure food security, protection and rehabilitation of forestry for broad coverage.

1.5. Implement a transforming strategy for industrialization and modernization, allocate and use natural resources with maximum effectiveness, boost environmental protection, actively participate in the fight to combat global warming and climate change; enhance ownership to integrate the economy regionally and internationally.

2. Develop the social and cultural sectors associated with the economic sector to ensure harmony and sustainability:

2.1. Adhere to the development of the national education system and personnel building as the central and focal duty for breakthrough, aiming at building and nurturing personnel for all sectors such as: professional workers, technicians, engineers, administrators, operators and

managers to meet both quality and quantity requirements to fulfill demand in Party and state organizations and the whole society.

2.2. Nurture Lao people to be physically healthy by implementing public health policy, which regards disease prevention and health promotion as the primary factor, with quality treatment and proper healthcare service coverage the secondary factor, and implement a free treatment policy for poor and disadvantaged target groups.

2.3. Enrich national intellect, nurture Lao people to be civil-minded citizens with creativeness, revolutionary ideals and advanced vision; continue to preserve and enhance national culture associated with being consciously clever to learn sound culture from outside.

2.4. Address outstanding social issues by making use of social-centralized power and implement social policy to target groups appropriately.

3. Boost the role of state authority systems; consolidate the people's democratic state towards being a state governed by the rule of law and created by the people and for the people. In the future, we must realize a development oriented strategy of 'building provinces as strategic units, districts as comprehensively strengthened units and villages as developed units'.

4. Step up work on front affairs; enhance the role of the Lao Front for National Construction, Lao Revolutionary Youth Union, Lao Women's Union, Lao Federation of Trade Unions, and Lao National Veterans Federation in order to increase concord among ethnic groups and social strata regardless of their gender or religion and build a force of great unity of the Lao people, including Lao expatriates living overseas; promote social professional organizations and associations, which have been formed and function legally so they can contribute as a force for national development.

5. Implement a national defense and security policy with the deep and broad engagement of the people; harmoniously combine national defense and security with socio-economic development and cooperative foreign relations; continue to focus on political ground building at the grassroots level, establish development villages and development village clusters to meet set objectives and targets, develop the socio economy and improve living conditions whilst enabling people to take a more active part in security and defense throughout the nation.

6. Consistently continue to broaden external relations and international cooperation by adhering to a foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation; promote cooperative external relations of various formats, multilateral, multi-directional, multi dimensional and multiform, on the principle of respect for mutual trust and interest.

7. Build the Party as a clean, steadfast and strong Party capable of leading national defense and development tasks in the current period by embracing the general directives of Party building as follows: embrace the nature of Marxism-Leninism; strive to develop and improve oneself to meet current prevailing circumstances; be a capable ruling Party for the people and a

prosperous nation; be a Party with strong organizational systems, firm unity in Endeavour and action, sound management, strict discipline and a scientific, innovative, and realistic leadership style; be a clean Party that is strict in preventing and suppressing corruption and other forms of negative phenomena within the Party-state machinery, the rank and file of cadres, and Party members.

To meet the general targets and directives, we must concentrate on the implementation of the following main tasks:

1. Step up Party building in political ideology and pay attention to improving theoretical research.

Consistently and resolutely embrace Marxism-Leninism and socialism ideology; attentively study, embrace and make good use of the methodology of Marxism- Leninism as it applies to our country's peculiarities in a creative and appropriate manner with regular assessments of lessons learnt in our country in order to consolidate the Party's guidance in line with the real needs of the nation's development; embrace the renovation policy with actions against stereotype, subjective, hurried attitudes and unsteady stances as a result of poor comprehension of the principled renovation policy; raise political quality, knowledge and competence of Party cadres to ensure the whole Party is confident with socialist ideology without any unsteady attitudes despite the challenges ahead.

2. Continue to strengthen the Party's organizational systems. Enhance internal unity of the Party, especially the Party's top leadership; embrace a centralized democratic principle and enhance democracy through the increase of strict discipline within the Party.

3. Improve the leadership style and upgrade the capacity of the ruling Party. By observing and enhancing the sound traditional leading style of the Party, particularly through the Party political lines and organizations, mass guidelines, agitation combined with the role model by Party members and Party organizations, we must take the lead in a practical, scientific and democratic fashion to make the leadership of Party committees at all levels conform with objective, pro-active and responsible approaches. We must also be active in preventing and eradicating bureaucratic, inattentive and irresponsible attitudes, and in opposing indiscipline, autocracy, oligarchy and nepotism.

4. Strengthen inspection work. Increase the quality of inspection work along with the upgrading of inspectors' capacity, conduct regular inspection of organizations and individuals, and inspection of work and responsibilities. We also need inspection mechanisms among the organizations, inspection of individuals by organizations, and inspection of upper level organizations by lower level organizations. We also need to harmonies inspections by the Party, state and people and increase inspection systems to prevent negative phenomena from occurring, while developing positive sides and new factors and create conditions to enable active public participation in inspections.

5. Systemize work on Party management and protection. Attach special importance to protecting political lines, Party leadership, Party organizations and Party members; protect Party members and cadres so they are conscious of the need for self-discipline and comply with the laws and the Party's Statute; implement a policy to praise and award outstanding cadres in a timely and appropriate manner, while employing strict measures against infringers of Party Statute, state laws and ethics of Party members as well as cadres on a case-by-case basis and in a timely manner; continue to distribute Party member ID cards.

6. Personnel work and training for qualified personnel. In the coming years, we must train and upgrade personnel with knowledge, competence, good character, firm political ideology, deep loyalty to the nation and the Party's cause, a passion to honestly serve the nation and the people. Party personnel are also expected to have a fine and progressive lifestyle, Endeavour to develop themselves, diligence in study and learning, consciousness of organization and discipline, and respect for laws and the Party's Statute.

We must 'train the rank and file of qualified personnel in a number appropriate to the structure and sufficient to meet current needs, and we must have successive generations of personnel, and mechanisms for effective and efficient management of personnel'.

The directives and focal tasks in each area adopted at the 9th Party Congress are aimed at creating breakthrough approaches in each area; therefore we must consider, understand and implement them strictly.

The Congress assigned the Party Central Committee to supervise the systematic study of the resolution, particularly the Party's core members and cadres in all central and provincial organizations and all sectors to learn the resolution properly in order to put it into practice with tangible results. In addition, the Congress assigned the Party Central Committee to further study in order to transform the directives and focal tasks of some areas into the resolution of the Party Central Committee to be served as a detailed reference for Party committees at all levels for organized implementation. At the same time, work is needed to supervise state organizations in translating the directives and focal tasks into detailed legal documents, action plans and projects to ensure sufficient time for the implementation with achievements.

1. The Congress called for Party committees, administration authorities, Party members and civil servants across the country, especially core officials, to learn and understand the content of the Political Report, and be active in translating it into detailed action plans and projects compatible with potential and peculiarities, and together realize the detailed plans and projects.

2. The Congress heard a report on the 7th five-year national socio-economic development plan (2011-2015), which translates the resolution of the Congress into national action plans and projects including investment outlines for the projects. The Congress reached consensus on the five-year plan and assigned the government to exert effort combined with

making use of untapped potential and overall strength to realize the five-year development plan.

3. The Congress adopted the leadership assessment report of the 8th Party Central Committee, highly valued the intense effort with active creativeness in developing the Party's tradition and lessons, capable to lead implementation of the 8th resolution with several important achievements, even exceeding set targets in some fields. At the same time, the Congress praised the Party Central Committee for being the leading committee with cohesive unity, being core for unity within the whole Party, state, armed forces and the entire Lao people. The Party Central Committee is also active in addressing the degradation of revolutionary morale and any action against the Party's Statute within the Party leading cadres at all levels.

The Congress called for the 9th Party Central Committee to be more active in enhancing its strong points, while addressing weak points and shortcomings intensively, to uphold the strength and role model of Party committees.

4. The Congress heard a report on the amendment of the Party's Statute and adopted the 9th amended statute, which will serve as a guideline guaranteeing the implementation of political lines. The amended statute of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party was officially adopted by the 9th Party Congress and comes into effect immediately after the Party Central Committee announces the official promulgation of the statute.

5. The Congress elected the 9th Party Central Committee comprising 61 members, which will be the core leadership body to lead the whole Party, state, armed forces and Lao people in the whole nation in implementing the resolution of the 9th Congress successfully with achievement, creating concrete breakthrough approaches on development and advancing the nation further with strong pace.

The Preliminary Plenary Session of the 9th Party Central Committee re-elected Comrade Choummaly Sayasone as the Secretary General of the Party Central Committee; elected 11 members of the Political Bureau, elected 9 members of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, and elected Comrade Bounnhang Vorachit as standing member of the secretariat. At the same time, the Plenary Session also elected the president and vice president of the Inspection Committee of the Party Central Committee.

6. The Congress congratulated and praised cadres, Party members, military, police and production, business and service entrepreneurs of all economic sectors and Lao multiethnic people and social strata across the nation, and Lao expatriates living abroad who love the nation for their active participation in the nation's defense and development tasks, as well as the implementation of the resolution of the 8th Congress over the past five years, scoring several important achievements regarded as creating a basis and new factors for the effort to graduate our nation from the status of a UN listed least developed country by 2020 and advance it further toward the set goal. The Congress also expressed sincere thanks and

gratitude to brotherly and friendly countries and international organizations for their valuable support and assistance in the national construction and development of our people over the past five years.

The Congress called for all Party members to uphold the role model in all areas leading the masses in realizing this resolution. The congress also called for officials, combatants, and Lao multiethnic people of all social strata to uphold a strong sense of patriotism, a deep love for the people's democratic regime and Endeavour in performing jobs, making a living and working to develop Laos as a prosperous nation, where people enjoy a wealthy and happy life, and society enjoys unity and concord, democracy, justice and civilization.