

## Workshop on a transition from a Positive List to a Negative List Approach for Financial and Banking Services under the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA)



On the 27 January 2026, the International Cooperation Department, Bank of the Lao PDR (BOL) led by Ms. Maliny Xavanna, Acting Director General, in collaboration with the Department of Trade Negotiation and Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC), led by Mr. Sengaloun Vilaysack, Deputy Director General, jointly organized a workshop on a Transition from a Positive List to a Negative List Approach for Financial and Banking Services under the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA). The workshop brought together representatives from the relevant departments from BOL, MOIC, and Ministry of Finance (MOF) up to 40 participants.

The workshop aims to strengthen the knowledge-based of participants as well as understanding various technical principles of a transition from a Positive List to a Negative List Approach for financial and banking sector under the ATISA agreement in preparing the commitments applying a negative list approach into the right objective. Our participants were contributed in exchanging their technical-based with

the speaker and amongst attendees to increase the level of their technical-based, some recommendations for the submitting the first draft of a negative list approach, some advantages and disadvantages of transitioning to negative list approach, and preparing for a future action plan until 2027 to be able to submit the first draft in a timely manner.



The workshop was held for a half day with a fruitful and productive progress. This effort makes a crucial step towards strengthening implementation capacity building and coordinating tools for our participants from relevant departments and line ministries enhancing their knowledge-based in preparing for the submission of a first draft of a negative list approach under ATISA on a scheduled.

Source: International Cooperation Department

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