

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON LABOUR PROTECTION, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH UP TO 2010 IN VIETNAM

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PART I.

RATIONALE ON PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

1. Some facts and figures of occupational accidents, diseases:

a. Occupational accidents

- **In industrial sector:**
 - According to statistics from 2001 – 2005:
 - + 4347 occupational accidents/year, injuring 4542 people and killing 494 people;
 - + Increases by about 7,95%/year;
 - + The frequency rate: 1.69‰.

OA in industrial sector (continue...)

- In the first 6 months of the year 2006, in comparison with the same period of 2005, the number of fatal occupational accidents increases by 1.9%.
- Estimation: The number of occupational accidents was in fact many times higher than the reported number at about 40,000 accidents/year.
- Cost for Occupational accidents
 - + From employers: according to the reports was VND 29.5 billion/year; according to the survey done by the MOLISSA was VND 242 billion/year.
 - + From Vietnam Social security: VND 40 billion/year.

b. Occupational diseases

- 1976 – 1990: 5497 workers suffering from occupational diseases
- 1990 - 2005: The number has tripled, until the end of 2005 was total of 21,537 people.
- Many new occupational diseases have appeared, without being supplemented. In 2006, there are 4 supplemented occupational diseases;
- Total of 25 occupational diseases are insured by the State.
- Only 10% of the production units with occupational disease hazards conduct medical and health checks for labourers, resulting in ten times the number of occupational diseases contracted by people than was reported.

2. Future trends in occupational accidents and occupational diseases

a. Factors causing the increase

- Up to 2010, there will be more than 500,000 enterprises in operation, of which 95% will be small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Besides having positive merits, the import and operation of machines, technologies and new materials also contributes to on-going occupational health and safety risks.
- The trend of rapid development in the quarrying, mining and construction industries, will increase polluted environments and the hazards to safety and health

a. Factors causing the increase (continue...)

- The development of handicraft villages and household businesses, in the market economy, lacking of supervision in occupational safety and health,
- The rapid increase in the labour workforce, together with unskilled labourers

b. Forecast by 2010:

- About 120,000 to 130,000 victims of occupational accidents with more than 1,200 fatalities, causing economic losses of about VND 840-910 billion in industrial sector;
- More than 200,000 workers suffering from occupational diseases.

PART II.

BASIC CONTENTS OF THE PROGRAMME

(According to decision No233/2006/QD-TTg dated 18th October 2006 Of the Prime Minister, approving the National Programme on Labour Protection, Occupational Safety, Occupational Health up to 2010)

1. General objective:

To pay attention to improving working conditions, to reduce pollution of the work environment; to prevent occupational accidents and occupational diseases, taking care of workers' health; to improve awareness of and compliance with laws on labour protection, ensuring the lives and happiness of the people and the assets of the State, and contributing to the sustainable development of the nation.

2. Specific targets to 2010:

- Reduce serious and fatal occupational accidents. Reduce by 5% the annual occupational accident frequency rate in particularly hazardous sectors (mining, construction, use of electricity)
- Reduce by 10% the number of newly contracted cases of occupational disease; ensure that more than 80% of workers in production units with high risk of occupational diseases have their health checked for occupational diseases
- 100% of workers diagnosed with occupational accidents and occupational diseases are treated, provided with health care and rehabilitation services
- More than 80% of workers in sectors and jobs with strict occupational safety and health requirements and OSH officers are trained in OSH
- Ensure that 100% of fatal and serious occupational accidents are investigated and handled.

3. Duration – scope of the programme

- Implementation duration: 5 years, from 2006 to 2010
- Scope of the programme: nation-wide

4. Projects under the programme:

Project 1: Capacity building and improvement of the effectiveness of State administration on labour protection, executed by MOLISA:

- To consolidate the management model of State administration on labour protection and OSH;
- To consolidate the legal frameworks on labour protection;
- To conduct a comprehensive survey on occupational accidents;

Project 1 (continue...)

- To build capacity for the system of labour inspection, investigation and supervision of occupational accidents;
- To set up the OSH management model in enterprises;
- To establish the Compensation fund for occupational accidents and occupational diseases;
- To strengthen, invest in and build new rehabilitation centers for victims of occupational accidents and diseases;
- To set up the International Programme for technical assistance and training in OSH

Project 2: Improvement of working conditions in enterprises with focus on minimizing occupational accidents in mining and quarrying, use of electricity and construction

Executing: Ministry of Industry; Ministry of Construction:

- To enhancement of awareness of OSH;
- To build capacity of the verification, checking and maintenance of machinery and equipment with strict OSH requirements;
- To survey the working conditions;
- To enhance consultancy services, boosting the improvement of working conditions.

Project 3: Promoting prevention and control of occupational accidents and occupational diseases in agriculture and rural occupations,
Executed by Ministry of A&RD:

- To review, develop and consolidate the legislative documents;
- To set up and strengthen the administration model and organization system on labor protection, OSH;
- To improve the awareness of administrative levels, organizations of employers and workers;
- To consolidate and build capacity for a system of inspection and supervision of OSH;
- To survey the working conditions (in collaboration with the Project 1 and Project 5)

Project 4: Improvement of the quality of labour protection performance in small and medium-sized enterprises

Executed by Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance:

- To enhance activities on information dissemination, publicity, training for employers' organization and employers on labour protection, improvement of working conditions (in collaboration with the Project 1 and Project 5);
- To Boost the training, consultancy activities, promotional enterprises to implement methods for the prevention of occupational accidents and improvement of working conditions in enterprises

Project 5: Enhancement of prevention of occupational diseases

Executed by Ministry of Health:

- Enhancement of the supervision, control and limitation of common occupational diseases (OD);
- Ensuring the supervision of working environment and the effective control of hazardous elements causing OD
- Consolidation and strengthening of examination, diagnosis, confirmation and treatment of OD and rehabilitation activities;
- Investment to upgrade units for examination and treatment of OD;
- Studying, revising and supplementing the legislative documents on occupational health and list of OD;
- Enhancement of publicity and education on the risk and harmful consequences of OD.

Project 6: Disseminating information, educating and training to enhance awareness of different levels, sectors, organizations and individuals to bring into play the roles of the public in labour protection activities

Executed by MOLISA:

- To build the capacity and implementation of information activities, publicity, training in labour protection and OSH;
- To enhance the mass movements on labour protection in industrialization and modernization processes;
- To invest and upgrade the national OSH Training Center;
- To enhance education in OSH and build green-clean-beautiful environment in schools and education units.

Project 7: Capacity building in the study and application of scientific and technological advances in OSH

Executed by VGCL:

- To build the capacity of scientific and technological research in OSH;
- To study development and application of scientific and technological advances and OSH standards as well as solutions for improvement of working environment and conditions.



PART III.

SOLUTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME

1. Solutions in terms of policies and mechanism:

- Revising the contents relating to occupational health and safety in the Labour Code; develop the Act on OSH; establish the Compensation Fund for Occupational Accidents and Occupational Diseases.
- Set up policies and mechanisms to encourage workers to improve working conditions; consolidate policies containing awards for good practice and penalties for violation of occupational health and safety laws.
- Develop policy and mechanisms to encourage the development of consultancy services, verification, education and training in OSH.
- Set up mechanism for collaboration, integration, monitoring and evaluation to ensure their effectiveness.

2. Financial solutions

- Total budget estimate VND 467 billions, includes:
- State budget: VND 242 billion (51.8%) of which 232 billion are for Projects and 10 billion for operational costs (management and execution)
- Enterprises: VND 125 billion (26.8%)
- International organizations: VND 100 billion (21.4%)

3. Administration, execution and organization to implement the Programme:

a. Management and execution:

- **The Program Steering Committee** to assist the Government in coordinating the direction, checking, providing guidance and speeding up Ministries, Sectors and provinces and to coordinate activities of the programme
- Chairperson: Minister of MOLISA
- Vice chairpersons: Vice Ministers of MOLISA, leaders from Vietnam's General Confederation of Labour and Ministry of Health
- Committee members are leaders from the following agencies: Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Finance; Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Public security, Ministry of Science and Technologies; Ministry of Construction,...

b. Planning for implementation of the Programme

- OSH activities need to be included in the annual work plan of Ministries, Sectors and localities.
- Building the OSH plan should occur in conjunction with the socio-economic development plan of Ministries, Sectors and localities.
- Every 6 months and annually, a summary and review should be conducted and the results should be announced in the mass media.



Thank you for your attention!