

National Assembly's 9th ordinary session closes.



(KPL) The ninth ordinary session of the National Assembly (sixth legislature) opening on 14 June came to a close on 30 June under the chairmanship of Mr. Thongsing Thammavong, President of the National Assembly.

During the 13-day deliberations, the session has endorsed a report on the achievements of the 2009-2010 socio-economic development and the 2010-2011 socio-economic development plan, and a report on the achievement of the 2009-2010 budget plans and the 2010-2011 budget plans and a report on state inspection.

The target for socio-economic development for 2010-2011 periods is to increase the GDP to 8-8.5 per cent and the annual per capita income of 9.6 million kip (US\$ 1,130).

The session also endorsed three laws on consumer protection, statistics, prevention of HIV/AIDS, and draft resolution on land management by the Land Management Authority.

The session heard reports on the implementation of the constitution and laws in 2009-2010 periods and laid out measures for their materialization for the following year. The reports were presented by the People's Supreme Court President Khammy Sayavong, Supreme Prosecutor and representative from the Law Commission of the National Assembly.

The participants to this ordinary session deliberated the activities made during the 7th-9th sessions of the National Assembly and worked out an orientation and duties of the assembly for the rest of 2010.



In his speech to the session, Prime Minister Bouasone Bouphavanh said the Lao economy remained small and fragile despite rapid growth over the past five years; this meant more funds were needed to ensure stable growth.

“I would like comrades to acknowledge that the size of our economy is still small and the foundations for economic growth are not broad-based and strong,” he said.

Mr Bouasone said that over the next five years the government planned to achieve its poverty reduction goals and the Millennium Development Goals, and build a sufficiently strong foundation to enable Laos to come off the UN list of least developed countries by 2020.

“The per capita income of Lao people must reach US\$1,700 by 2015. Otherwise it will be difficult to shake off the least developed country status by 2020,” he said.

The government will also work with other Asean members to build the Asean Community by 2015, he said.

Mr Bouasone said the government would encourage foreign investment and mobilise official development assistance from development partners so that Laos could continue to maintain economic growth, creating conditions for the government to take Laos off the least-developed countries’ list.

In his closing statement, Mr. Thongsing Thammavong called on all N.A members to make efforts in the materialization of the outcome of this 9th ordinary session. He also urged mass organizations at all levels, civil servants, workers, military and police officers and people of all ethnic groups to enhance their patriotism, exert all their mental and physical strength in implementing state plans for 2010-2011 period and for national defense and construction.

Present at the closing ceremony were Mr. Choummaly Sayasone, Politburo member of the Lao People’s Revolutionary Party Central Committee (LPRP CC) and President of the Lao PDR, other LPRP CC Politburo members, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the international organizations, chiefs of the Party-State organizations, mass organizations at central level, qualified figures, representatives of people of different social strata, intellectuals and businessmen.