

# **Lao PDR: Sharing Experiences on Post-WTO Accession**

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# Contents

- 1. Long Road to Joining WTO**
- 2. Accession Negotiations and Results**
- 3. Post-Accession Challenges and Solutions**
- 4. Lessons Learned**

# 1. Long Road to Joining WTO



**It took 15 years for a small country like Laos to join WTO.**

- 07/1997: Applied for membership.
- 02/1998: Working Party (WP) established.
- 03/2001: Submitted Memorandum on Foreign Trade Regime.
  - Multilateral track: 10 Working Party Meetings.
  - Bilateral track: bilateral negotiations on goods and services with 9 members.
- 02/02/2013: Full-fledged member of WTO (158<sup>th</sup>).

## 2. Accession Negotiations and Results (Multilateral Track)

- Aim at clarifying compliance of Laos' laws and regulations with WTO principles.
- Provided 10 sets of questions and answers (Q&As), with more than 1,030 responses.
- Action plans stating in details legislation to be adopted and amended, and specifying steps, timeframe and technical assistance needed.
- More than 90 pieces of legislation were adopted or amended, including 26 laws and 18 decrees.

## 2. Accession Negotiations and Results (Multilateral Track)



## **2. Accession Negotiations and Results**

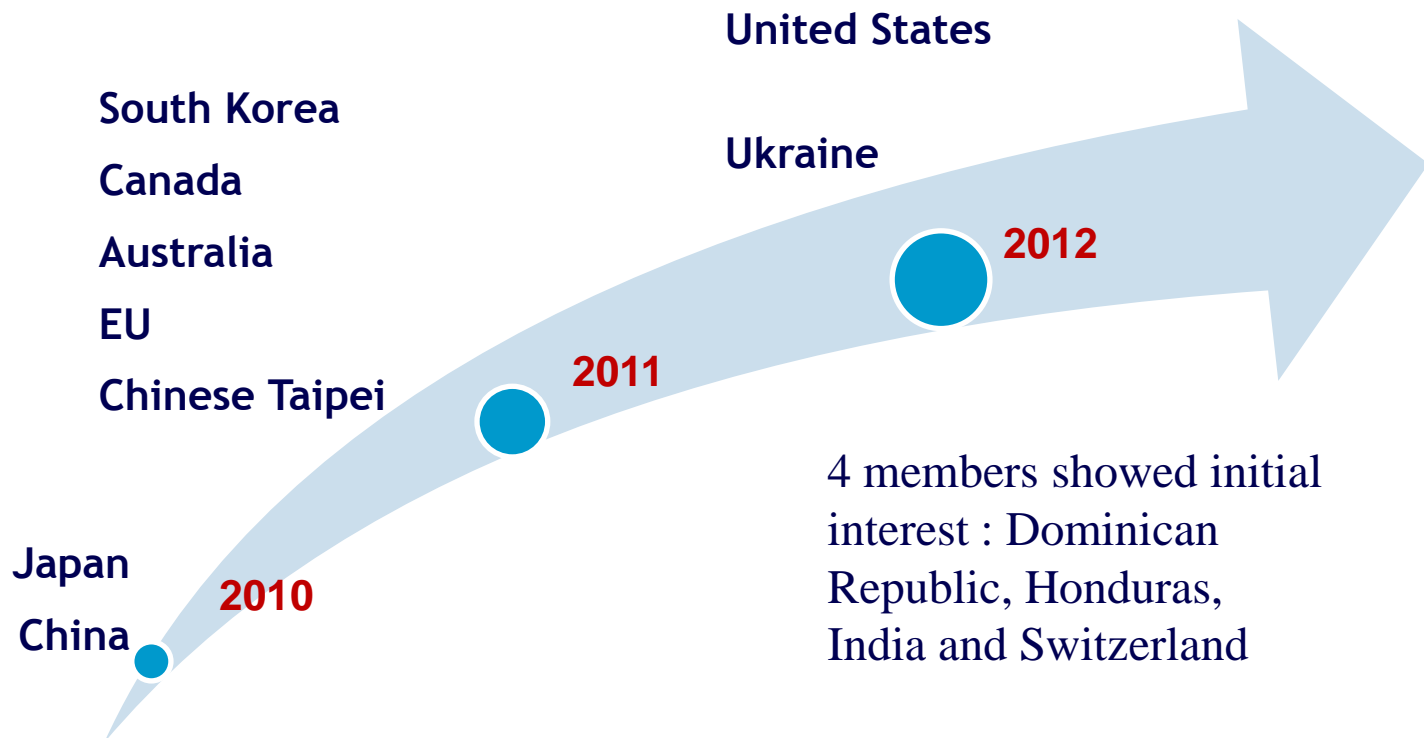
### **(Multilateral Track)**

**Laos received transition periods as follows:**

- Telecom Independent Regulator: 2 years
- To abolish reference price and fully implement CVA: 2 years
- Trading Rights: 2 years
- Official Gazette: 3 years
- Trade Remedies: 5 years
- To implement SPS/TBT Agreements: 2 years
- To implement TRIPS: 4 years (but TRIPS extension for LDC until 2021)

## 2. Accession Negotiations and Results (Bilateral Track)

Laos concluded bilateral negotiations on goods and services with 9 members.



## 2. Accession Negotiations and Results (Bilateral Track)

- Goods: average bound rates 18,8%
  - Agricultural goods: 19.3% (applied rates: 18.4%)
  - Industrial goods: 18.7% (applied rate: 10.0%)
  
- Services: open 10 sectors and 79 sub-sectors  
(from 160 sub-sectors)

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_2722](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_2722)

