Conference on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): A New Paradigm in Asia’s Trading Architecture
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Session 2: Trade in Services and Investment

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Content:

- Trade in services Chapter
- MNP Chapter
- Investment Chapter
- Opportunities and Challenges
Trade in Services Chapter (TIS)

- The Chapter provides opportunities
- Content and scope
- **Structure:** rule and market access Commitment
• **25 Articles:**

- Scope
- Obligation, Transparency
- Commitment, approach
- Development, safeguard, Cooperation

**3-annex**

- Financial services
- Telecom services
- Professional services
Summarized Key Features:

- Positive List
- Negative List Approach
- Auto MFN
- Transition
- Local Presence
- Enhanced Domestic Regulation
Key Rules Obligations:

- Article 8.2: Scope
- Article 8.3: Schedule of Commitment
- Article 8.4: National Treatment
- Article 8.5 Market Access
- Article 8.6: MFN
- Article 8.10: Transparency List
- Article 8.11 Local presence
- Article 8.22: Transition
- Article 8.14: Transparency
- Article 8.15 Domestic Regulations
Movement of Natural person (MNP) Chapter

- RCEP Temporary Movement of Natural person (MNP)

- 9 articles
  - scope
  - Rules and Market Access Commitment

- To facilitate the movement of professionals and high skilled talent across the RCEP region
- To provides opportunities to RCEP countries venture into RCEP’s talent Market
Investment Chapter

- **4 Main Purposes**
  - To liberalize the Investment environment
  - Investment Facilitation
  - Protection
  - Competitiveness in the region

- **18 Articles**
  - Negative-List approach to liberalize investment sectors including **Mode 3** of services
  - Provision on (NT) & MFN
Opportunities

- Attract foreign investors to the country
- Enhancing the potential industry investors target that will use Lao PDR as manufacturing base for exporting
- Promote the country in term of the Laws and Regulation readiness to facilitate the investors
- Enhancing the Economic cooperation and technical

Challenges

- Facing Higher competition for Local Businesses
- Readiness of local businesses in term of adapting themselves to meet RCEP requirement
- Transparency
- Reviewing the Agreement after Lao PDR graduate from LDC
- Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)
- Transposition from Positive to Negative List Approach for Trade in services Schedule of Commitment
- Dissemination Budget
Thank you