

Lao People Democratic Republic
Peace, Independence, Democracy, Solidarity, Prosperity

Prime Minister's Office

No./198/ PM

Decree of the Prime Minister
on the marriage between a lao citizen and a foreigner

based on the Constitution of the Lao PDR,
based on the Family law No.07/09/spa dated on November,29, 1990
based on the proposal of the Minister of Justice,

The Prime Minister decrees

Article 1. This decree defines the regulation concerning the marriage of a Lao citizen and a foreigner.

Article 2. The foreigner is a person with another citizenship entering into Laos for a short or long term with the purpose of working. During his stay this person is under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other related organizations.

Article 3 The marriage between a Lao citizen and a foreigner in Lao PDR is to be conform the family law of the Lao PDR and this decree, except the case where the law and this decree differ with an international treaty of which Lao PDR is member. In that case the international treaty prevails.

Article 4. The 2 fiancées have to provide documents as follow:

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| 1/ | a formal request | 1 set each |
| 2/ | a curriculum vitae | 1 set each |
| 3/ | a certificate of residence | 1 set each |
| 4/ | a copy of ID card, passport or other document | 1 set each |
| 5/ | a bachelor certificate | 1 set each |
| 6/ | a health certificate | 1 set each |
| 7/ | a judicial certificate | 1 set each |
| 8/ | photographs | 3 each |
| 9/ | an economic statement of the foreigner | |
| 10/ | a guaranty from the foreigner to repatriate the Lao woman (if she desires) in case of divorce | |
| 11/ | an agreement of the Embassy or consulate of the foreigner through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR | |
| 12/ | an agreement of the police of province or municipality for the foreigner | |
| 13/ | an agreement of the department of justice of province or municipality for the foreigner for the items 12 and 13 the authorities for family are in charge to contact and obtain the agreement from the related organizations. | |

Article 5. For a Lao citizen working in the sector of national confidentiality, an prior authorization should be given by the related organization

Article 6. Documents in foreign language should be translated into lao and officially agreed.

Article 7. A marriage application form between Lao citizen and a foreigner should be submitted to the authorities for family of the province "Provincial Family Civil Registration Office" or municipality (marriage with Foreigner Unit, accordingly. A fee of 30,000 Kip need to be paid to the national treasury, or the treasury of province or municipality.

Article 8. The authorities for the family should decide within 60 days starting from the date of submission of the request. In case of agreement the authorities for family organize a registration of marriage at the office of the family authorities of the province or municipality related.

Article 9. For a marriage between a Lao citizen and a Lao expatriate (other citizenship than Lao), the rules are the rules of the family law and this decree.

Article 10. For a marriage between a Lao citizen and a foreigner outside the territory of Lao PDR, the law of the related country prevails but an agreement should be given by the Embassy or Consulate of the Lao PDR in that country. If there is no Embassy nor Consulate the agreement should be obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If there is no conflict with the law of the related country, the registration could be done at the Embassy or Consulate.

Article 11. For a marriage between a Lao citizen and an expatriate resident in Lao PDR, the family law of the Lao PDR prevails.

Article 12. The Ministry of foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the authorities of provinces, municipality and all related organizations are in charge to implement this decree.

Article 13. Any regulations, rules, orders in conflict with this decree are cancelled. This decree comes into force starting from the day of its signature.

Vientiane 19/12/1994

Prime Minister
Khamtay Siphandone