

LAOS

Law:

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is in a process of amending its Penal Law which will cover crime of terrorist acts involving the use of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. Currently the drafting committee is collecting comments and inputs from concerned Ministries and agencies in order to make the amended draft more comprehensive before submitting to the National Assembly for consideration and adoption.

Prime Minister's Decree No. 205/PM dated 11 October 2001 On Export-Import Control, which stipulates that any exported and imported goods require an authorization and all relevant documents certifying the origin of the goods and their quality. The decree also contains provisions relating to the punishment of violator.

Enforcement:

Concerned Government Agencies are mandated to monitor and control the import and export of prohibited goods in particular, weapons, equipments and chemicals that can be used to produce weapons. The following Agencies are:

1. Ministry of Commerce is responsible for general inspection and issuance of license for prohibited imported and exported goods.
2. Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts is responsible for screening and approving the types of chemical substance and manufacturing machineries prescribed in the Business License prior to the issuance of import license by the Ministry of Commerce.
3. Department of Food and Pharmaceutical, Ministry of Health, is responsible for inspection of imported chemical precursors.
4. Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction is responsible for monitoring domestic and transit transport of goods, especially the prohibited and hazardous ones.
5. Custom officers at border checkpoints are responsible for verifying the quantity, types and origin of imported and exported goods prescribed in the license issued by relevant authorities.
6. Department of International Police, Ministry of Public Security has the duty to share information with Interpol on terrorist acts and transnational organized crimes.
7. X-ray scanners have been installed at major international airports to ensure public security and prevent illegal trafficking of weapons and prohibited goods.

Treaties:

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), ratified on 25 April 1973.