

CONFORMED COPY

CREDIT NUMBER 1846 LA

(Southern Transport Project)

between

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

and

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Dated December 18, 1987

CREDIT NUMBER 1846 LA

DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, dated December 18, 1987, between LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (the Borrower) and INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association).

WHEREAS the Borrower, having satisfied itself as to the feasibility and priority of the Project described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement, has requested the Association to assist in the financing of the Project; and

WHEREAS the Association has agreed, on the basis, inter alia of the foregoing, to extend the Credit to the Borrower upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

General Conditions; Definitions

Section 1.01. The "General Conditions Applicable to Develop-

ment Credit Agreements" of the Association, dated January 1, 1985, with the last sentence of Section 3.02 deleted (the General Conditions) constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

Section 1.02. Unless the context otherwise requires, the several terms defined in the General Conditions and in the Preamble to this Agreement have the respective meanings therein set forth and the following additional terms have the following meanings:

(a) "RBMS" means the Borrower's provincial Road and Bridge Maintenance Society; and

(b) "Special Account" means the account referred to in Section 2.02 (b) of this Agreement.

ARTICLE II

The Credit

Section 2.01. The Association agrees to lend to the Borrower, on the terms and conditions set forth or referred to in this Agreement, an amount in various currencies equivalent to eleven million one hundred thousand Special Drawing Rights (SDR 11,100,000).

Section 2.02. (a) The amount of the Credit may be withdrawn from the Credit Account in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement for expenditures made (or, if the Association shall so agree, to be made) in respect of the reasonable cost of goods and services required for the Project described in Schedule 2 to this Agreement and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit.

(b) The Borrower shall, for the purposes of the Project, open and maintain in dollars a special account in Banque pour le Commerce Exterieur Lao on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Association. Deposits into, and payments out of, the Special Account shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 4 to this Agreement.

Section 2.03. The Closing Date shall be December 31, 1991, or such later date as the Association shall establish. The Association shall promptly notify the Borrower of such later date.

Section 2.04. (a) The Borrower shall pay to the Association a commitment charge at the rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Credit not withdrawn from time to time. The commitment charge shall accrue from a date sixty days after the date of this Agreement to the respective dates on which amounts shall be withdrawn by the Borrower from the Credit Account or shall be cancelled.

(b) The commitment charge shall be paid: (i) at such places as the Association shall reasonably request; (ii) without restrictions of any kind imposed by, or in the territory of, the Borrower; and (iii) in the currency specified in this Agreement for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions or in such other eligible currency or currencies as may from time to time be designated or selected pursuant to the provisions of that Section.

Section 2.05. The Borrower shall pay to the Association a service charge at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time.

Section 2.06. Commitment charges and service charges shall be payable semi-annually on April 15 and October 15 in each year.

Section 2.07. (a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) below, the Borrower shall repay the principal amount of the Credit in

semi-annual installments payable on each April 15 and October 15 commencing October 15, 1997 and ending April 15, 2027. Each installment to and including the installment payable on April 15, 2007 shall be one percent (1%) of such principal amount, and each installment thereafter shall be two percent (2%) of such principal amount.

(b) Whenever (i) the Borrower's gross national product per capita, as determined by the Association, shall have exceeded \$790 in constant 1985 dollars for five consecutive years, and (ii) the Bank shall consider the Borrower creditworthy for Bank lending, the Association may, subsequent to the review and approval thereof by the Executive Directors of the Association and after due consideration by them of the development of the Borrower's economy, modify the terms of repayment of installments under paragraph (a) above by requiring the Borrower to repay twice the amount of each such installment not yet due until the principal amount of the Credit shall have been repaid. If so requested by the Borrower, the Association may revise such modification to include, in lieu of some or all of the increase in the amounts of such installments, the payment of interest at an annual rate agreed with the Association on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time, provided that, in the judgment of the Association, such revision shall not change the grant element obtained under the above-mentioned repayment modification.

(c) If, at any time after a modification of terms pursuant to paragraph (b) above, the Association determines that the Borrower's economic condition has deteriorated significantly, the Association may, if so requested by the Borrower, further modify the terms of repayment to conform to the schedule of installments as provided in paragraph (a) above.

Section 2.08. The currency of the United States of America is hereby specified for the purposes of Section 4.02 of the General Conditions.

ARTICLE III

Execution of the Project

Section 3.01. (a) The Borrower declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project as set forth in Schedule 2 to this Agreement, and, to this end, shall carry out the Project with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate administrative, financial and engineering practices, and shall provide, promptly as needed, the funds, facilities, services and other resources required for the Project.

(b) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section and except as the Borrower and the Association shall otherwise agree, the Borrower shall carry out the Project in accordance with the Implementation Program set forth in Schedule 5 to this Agreement.

(c) Without limitation upon the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Section, the Borrower shall carry out Part A of the Project in accordance with design standards acceptable to the Association.

Section 3.02. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, procurement of the goods and consultants' services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit shall be governed by the provisions of Schedule 3 to this Agreement.

ARTICLE IV

Financial Covenants

Section 4.01. (a) The Borrower shall maintain or cause to be

maintained records and accounts adequate to reflect in accordance with sound accounting practices the operations, resources and expenditures in respect of the Project of the departments or agencies of the Borrower responsible for carrying out the Project or any part thereof.

(b) The Borrower shall:

- (i) have the records and accounts referred to in paragraph (a) of this Section including those for the Special Account for each fiscal year audited, in accordance with appropriate auditing principles consistently applied, by independent auditors acceptable to the Association;
- (ii) furnish to the Association, as soon as available, but in any case not later than six months after the end of each such year, a certified copy of the report of such audit by said auditors, of such scope and in such detail as the Association shall have reasonably requested; and
- (iii) furnish to the Association such other information concerning said records, accounts and the audit thereof as the Association shall from time to time reasonably request.

(c) For all expenditures with respect to which withdrawals from the Credit Account were made on the basis of statements of expenditure, the Borrower shall:

- (i) maintain or cause to be maintained, in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Section, records and accounts reflecting such expenditures;
- (ii) retain, until at least one year after the Association has received the audit for the fiscal year in which the last withdrawal from the Credit Account was made, all records (contracts, orders, invoices, bills, receipts and other documents) evidencing such expenditures;
- (iii) enable the Association's representatives to examine such records; and
- (iv) ensure that such records and accounts are included in the annual audit referred to in paragraph (b) of this Section and that the report of such audit contains a separate opinion by said auditors as to whether the statements of expenditure submitted during such fiscal year, together with the procedures and internal controls involved in their preparation, can be relied upon to support the related withdrawals.

ARTICLE V

Other Covenants

Section 5.01. The Borrower shall, at least once a year, starting not later than December 31, 1987, carry out traffic counts on Route 13 between the towns of Luang Prabang and Pakse to establish traffic growth for purposes of planning future road development.

Section 5.02. The Borrower shall:

(a) at all times, ensure that adequate funds are allocated and made available, as and when required, for the proper maintenance of the rehabilitated national roads in the Provinces of Savannakhet, Saravane and Champassak; and

(b) to that effect, annually review with the Association the maintenance program and the funding thereof for the roads referred to in paragraph (a) above.

ARTICLE VI

Effective Date; Termination

Section 6.01. The following event is specified as an additional condition to the effectiveness of the Development Credit Agreement within the meaning of Section 12.01 (b) of the General Conditions, namely that the Borrower has selected the consultants to assist in the implementation of the Project (other than Part D thereof).

Section 6.02. The date one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of this Agreement is hereby specified for the purposes of Section 12.04 of the General Conditions.

Section 6.03. The obligations of the Borrower under Sections 5.01 and 5.02 of this Agreement shall cease and determine on the date on which this Agreement shall terminate or on the date twenty years after the date of this Agreement, whichever shall be the earlier.

ARTICLE VII

Representative of the Borrower; Addresses

Section 7.01. The Secretary of State for Finance of the Borrower is designated as representative of the Borrower for the purposes of Section 11.03 of the General Conditions.

Section 7.02. The following addresses are specified for the purposes of Section 11.01 of the General Conditions:

For the Borrower:

Secretary of State for Finance
Ministry of Finance
Vientiane
Lao People's Democratic Republic

Cable address:

MINFINANCE
Vientiane

For the Association:

International Development Association
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America

Cable address:

INDEVAS
Washington, D.C.

Telex:

440098 (ITT)
248423 (RCA) or
64145 (WUI)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, acting through their duly authorized representatives, have caused this Agreement to be signed in their respective names in the District of Columbia, United States of America, as of the day and year first above written.

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

By /s/ D. Somvorachit
Authorized Representative

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By /s/ A. Karaosmanoglu
Regional Vice President
Asia

SCHEDULE 1

Withdrawal of the Proceeds of the Credit

1. The table below sets forth the Categories of items to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit, the allocation of the amounts of the Credit to each Category and the percentage of expenditures for items so to be financed in each Category:

Category	Amount of the Credit Allocated (Expressed in SDR Equivalent)	% of Expenditures to be Financed
(1) Equipment and materials	6,810,000	100% of foreign expenditures or 100% of local expenditures in foreign currency
(2) Consultants' services		
(a) other than Part D of the Project	160,000)	100% of foreign expenditures and 100% of local expenditures in foreign currency
(b) Part D of the Project	790,000)	
(3) Operating costs		
(a)	1,630,000	100% of local expenditures in foreign currency
(b)	90,000	10% of local expenditures in local currency
(4) Unallocated	1,620,000	
TOTAL	11,100,000	

2. For the purposes of this Schedule:

(a) the term "foreign expenditures" means expenditures in the currency of any country other than that of the Borrower for goods or services supplied from the territory of any country other than that of the Borrower;

(b) the term "local expenditures in local currency" means expenditures in the currency of the Borrower for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower;

(c) the term "local expenditures in foreign currency" means

expenditures in the currency of any country other than that of the Borrower for goods or services supplied from the territory of the Borrower; and

(d) the term "operating costs" means fuel, oil, lubricants, equipment maintenance and repairs, and salaries required by the RBMSs.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 above, no withdrawals shall be made in respect of payments made for expenditures prior to the date of this Agreement.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the Project

The objectives of the Project are to rehabilitate Route 13 and strengthen the maintenance work capacity of Road and Bridge Maintenance Societies in the Provinces of Savannakhet, Saravane and Champassak, as well as to carry out studies in preparation of future projects.

The Project consists of the following parts, subject to such modifications thereof as the Borrower and the Association may agree upon from time to time to achieve such objectives:

Part A:

Spot regravelling, grading, and drainage, culvert and bridge improvements, on about 270 kilometers of Route 13 in the Provinces of Savannakhet, Saravane and Champassak.

Part B:

Acquisition and utilization of road construction materials, road maintenance equipment, mechanical workshop equipment, and related spare parts.

Part C:

Strengthening the maintenance work capacity of Road and Bridge Maintenance Societies in the Provinces of Savannakhet, Saravane and Champassak, including on-the-job training of staff in maintenance techniques.

Part D:

The carrying out of National Transport Improvement Studies.

* * *

The Project is expected to be completed by June 30, 1991.

SCHEDULE 3

Procurement and Consultants' Services

Section I. Procurement of Goods

Part A: International Competitive Bidding

Except as provided in Part C hereof, goods shall be procured under contracts awarded in accordance with procedures consistent with those set forth in Sections I and II of the "Guidelines for Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits" published by the Bank in May 1985 (the Guidelines).

Part B: Preference for Domestic Manufacturers

In the procurement of goods in accordance with the procedures described in Part A hereof, goods manufactured in the Lao People's Democratic Republic may be granted a margin of preference in

accordance with, and subject to, the provisions of paragraphs 2.55 and 2.56 of the Guidelines and paragraphs 1 through 4 of Appendix 2 thereto.

Part C: Other Procurement Procedures

1. Items estimated to cost less than the equivalent of \$5,000 each, up to an aggregate amount not to exceed the equivalent of \$400,000, may be procured under contracts awarded on the basis of comparison of price quotations solicited from a list of at least three suppliers eligible under the Guidelines, in accordance with procedures acceptable to the Association.

2. Goods, such as timber, fuel, oil and lubricants, as well as emergency spares, up to an aggregate amount not to exceed the equivalent of \$2,300,000, may be procured through direct contracting with local suppliers under procedures acceptable to the Association.

Part D: Review by the Association of Procurement Decisions

1. Review of invitations to bid and of proposed awards and final contracts:

(a) With respect to each contract estimated to cost the equivalent of \$250,000 or more, the procedures set forth in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines shall apply. Where payments for such contract are to be made out of the Special Account, such procedures shall be modified to ensure that the two conformed copies of the contract required to be furnished to the Association pursuant to said paragraph 2 (d) shall be furnished to the Association prior to the making of the first payment out of the Special Account in respect of such contract.

(b) With respect to each contract not governed by the preceding paragraph, the procedures set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines shall apply. Where payments for such contract are to be made out of the Special Account, such procedures shall be modified to ensure that the two conformed copies of the contract together with the other information required to be furnished to the Association pursuant to said paragraph 3 shall be furnished to the Association as part of the evidence to be furnished pursuant to paragraph 4 of Schedule 4 to this Agreement.

(c) The provisions of the preceding subparagraphs (a) and (b) shall not apply to contracts on account of which the Association has authorized withdrawals from the Credit Account on the basis of statements of expenditure. Such contracts shall be retained in accordance with Section 4.01 (c) (ii) of this Agreement.

2. The figure of 10% is hereby specified for purposes of paragraph 4 of Appendix 1 to the Guidelines.

Section II. Employment of Consultants

In order to assist the Borrower in the carrying out of the Project and in the supervision of road works, the Borrower shall employ consultants whose qualifications, experience and terms and conditions of employment shall be satisfactory to the Association. Such consultants shall be selected in accordance with principles and procedures satisfactory to the Association on the basis of the "Guidelines for the Use of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers and by the World Bank as Executing Agency" published by the Bank in August 1981.

SCHEDULE 4

Special Account

1. For the purposes of this Schedule:

(a) the term "eligible Categories" means Categories 1, 2 and 3 set forth in the table in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to this Agreement;

(b) the term "eligible expenditures" means expenditures in respect of the reasonable cost of goods and services required for the Project and to be financed out of the proceeds of the Credit allocated from time to time to the eligible Categories in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 to this Agreement; and

(c) the term "Authorized Allocation" means an amount equivalent to \$1,000,000 to be withdrawn from the Credit Account and deposited in the Special Account pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) of this Schedule.

2. Except as the Association shall otherwise agree, payments out of the Special Account shall be made exclusively for eligible expenditures in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule.

3. After the Association has received evidence satisfactory to it that the Special Account has been duly opened, withdrawals of the Authorized Allocation and subsequent withdrawals to replenish the Special Account may be made as follows:

(a) On the basis of a request or requests by the Borrower for a deposit or deposits which add up to the aggregate amount of the Authorized Allocation, the Association shall, on behalf of the Borrower, withdraw from the Credit Account and deposit in the Special Account such amount or amounts as the Borrower shall have requested.

(b) The Borrower shall furnish to the Association requests for replenishment of the Special Account at such intervals as the Association shall specify. On the basis of such requests, the Association shall withdraw from the Credit Account and deposit into the Special Account such amounts as shall be required to replenish the Special Account with amounts not exceeding the amount of payments made out of the Special Account for eligible expenditures. All such deposits shall be withdrawn by the Association from the Credit Account under the respective eligible Categories, and in the respective equivalent amounts, as shall have been justified by the evidence supporting the request for such deposit furnished pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Schedule.

4. For each payment made by the Borrower out of the Special Account for which the Borrower requests replenishment pursuant to paragraph 3 (b) of this Schedule, the Borrower shall furnish to the Association, prior to or at the time of such request, such documents and other evidence as the Association shall reasonably request, showing that such payment was made for eligible expenditures.

5. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3 of this Schedule, no further deposit into the Special Account shall be made by the Association when either of the following situations first arises:

(i) the Association shall have determined that all further withdrawals should be made by the Borrower directly from the Credit Account in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the General Conditions and paragraph (a) of Section 2.02 of this Agreement; or

(ii) the total unwithdrawn amount of the Credit allocated to the eligible Categories minus the amount of any outstanding special commitment entered into by the Association pursuant to Section 5.02 of the General Conditions with respect to the Project, shall be equal to the equivalent of twice

the amount of the Authorized Allocation.

(b) Thereafter, withdrawal from the Credit Account of the remaining unwithdrawn amount of the Credit allocated to the eligible Categories shall follow such procedures as the Association shall specify by notice to the Borrower. Such further withdrawals shall be made only after and to the extent that the Association shall have been satisfied that all such amounts remaining on deposit in the Special Account as of the date of such notice will be utilized in making payments for eligible expenditures.

6. (a) If the Association shall have determined at any time that any payment out of the Special Account (i) was made for any expenditure or in any amount not eligible pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Schedule, or (ii) was not justified by the evidence furnished pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Schedule, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association deposit into the Special Account (or, if the Association shall so request, refund to the Association for crediting to the Credit Account) an amount equal to the amount of such payment or the portion thereof not so eligible or justified. No further deposit by the Association into the Special Account shall be made until the Borrower has made such deposit or refund.

(b) If the Association shall have determined at any time that any amount outstanding in the Special Account will not be required to cover further payments for eligible expenditures, the Borrower shall, promptly upon notice from the Association, refund to the Association such outstanding amount for crediting to the Credit Account.

SCHEDULE 5

Implementation Program

1. The Borrower shall establish, and thereafter maintain, a Project Implementation Office in the town of Savannakhet responsible for: (i) the management of the Project; (ii) operational procedures; (iii) procurement and allocation of plant, vehicles, equipment, and construction materials; (iv) repair and maintenance of equipment; and (v) quality control of works; such Office to be staffed with qualified personnel in adequate numbers, including the following:

- (a) a project manager; and
- (b) an assistant project manager.

2. (a) The Borrower shall maintain a RBMS in each of the Provinces of Savannakhet, Saravane and Champassak responsible for (i) carrying out of Project works and quality control of such works in the relevant Province, and (ii) regular servicing and preventive maintenance of its plant and equipment; such RBMS to be staffed with qualified personnel in adequate numbers, including the following:

- (1) a senior civil engineer;
- (2) an assistant engineer;
- (3) a site engineer; and
- (4) a mechanical superintendent.

(b) The Borrower shall appoint the staff referred to in paragraph (a)(1) to (a)(4) of this Section:

- (1) by June 30, 1988, for the RBMS in the Province of Savannakhet;
- (2) by October 30, 1988, for the RBMS in the Province of

Saravane; and

(3) by November 30, 1988 for the RBMS in the Province of Champassak.

3. In carrying out Part D of the Project, the Borrower shall:

(a) not later than August 30, 1988, select the consultants necessary for the purpose;

(b) not later than October 30, 1988, commence to carry out the studies referred to therein under terms of reference satisfactory to the Association; and

(c) not later than June 30, 1990, furnish to the Association, for its comments, the recommendations and findings of such studies.

