## **Press Release**

Signing Ceremony on underwriting contract for BCEL's share issuance (RO/PO) between BCEL and Lao-China Securities Company Limited.

Date: 19 July 2017



On the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Banque Pour Le Commerce Exterieur Lao Public (BCEL) and Lao-China Securities Company Limited (LCS) held the signing ceremony on underwriting contract for BCEL's share issuance (RO/PO). The contract between the two parties was honorably signed by Mr. Phoukhong CHANTHACHACK, General Managing Director of BCEL and Mr. Lin Li, General Manager of LCS.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by many honorable guests including:

- 1. Dr. Bounleua Sinxayvoravong, BCEL's chairman of the Board of Directors and also Director General of Fiscal Policy Department, Ministry of Finance.
- 2. Mr. Lachay Khanpravong, Deputy Managing Director of BCEL.

Along with the representatives from Lao Securities Commission Office, the representatives from LCS, BCEL's Head of Divisions, Centers, Branches, staff of BCEL and media from various channels.



The relationship between BCEL and LCS has started since 2013 which BCEL has been a clearing bank for LCS. In additions, BCEL has selected LCS as our financial advisor since 24 February 2017 to previse advisory service on BCEL's additional share issuance (RO/PO) and the preparation for share registration at the Lao Securities Exchange in the near future.

Mr. Phoukhong CHANTHACHACK, General Managing Director of BCEL gave his speech at the signing ceremony that, this additional share issuance of BCEL is the recapitalization plan which was approved by BCEL's Board of Directors on 29 March 2013. The underwriting contract which signed today is to ensure the selling of additional shares in the number of 71,145,700 shares in the value of 360,000,060,000 LAK will be successful as planed which has the details as follow:

- 1. The number of shares for existing shareholders (Right Offering) is 68,288,600 shares.
- 2. The number of shares for public investors (Public Offering) is 2,857,100 shares.

The terms and conditions for this underwriting contract is a firm commitment underwriting. After completing this contract signing, BCEL will collaborate with LCS in conducting the Road Show on additional share issuance of BCEL during 25 July 2017 to 3 August 2017 and there will be a public open for booking to purchase BCEL's both RO and PO between 28 August 2017 to 1 September 2017. After BCEL completes this recapitalization, the bank will register the additional shares with the Lao Securities Exchange.

Mr. Lin Li, General Manager of LCS shared his comments during the signing ceremony that BCEL is the largest commercial bank in Laos and the bank is the only bank that is listed in the Lao Securities Exchange. The bank has continuously achieved its profits each year.

BCEL has set its clear five year strategic and business plan. This includes the target for loan extension up to 12% in average according to the economic growth environment by distributing loan to various sectors and customers' segments. Moreover, BCEL also maintains its credit quality to the decent level, especially the control of NPL to be no more than 3% and to increase the yearly profit.

LCS as the financial advisor and underwriter for share issuance both PO and RO for BCEL, the company believes that the share issuance of 360 billion LAK will be done successfully because BCEL's share is one of attractive shares to invest and having a high return on investment which will be the best investment choice for investors.