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Somnuk is an Engineer, graduated from the Wollongong University, Australia. After his study, he was appointed to be the Chief Maintenance Engineer in the Road Administration Division under the Department of Roads, taking care the maintenance of the national road network in Lao. In mid 2004 he was appointed to be the Deputy Director at the Local Road Division, taking care the maintenance of the local road network in Lao. Mid 2008 till now, he was appointed to be Head to NRSC Secretariat Office under the Department of Transport whereby the main focus of his responsibility is toward the road safety issues.

The Government of the Laos (GoL) adopted a ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY and ACTION PLAN in mid 2005 The STRATEGY has focused on 4 areas namely: (1) the target of reducing the fatality rate for the decade, (2) the frame works of 5 Es¹, (3) the primary focus on 7 sub-themes², (4) the structure of the road safety institution³ and the ACTION PLAN has identified 15 areas for action , namely: (1) coordination and management, (2) accident data system, (3) road safety fund, (4) safe road: planning, design and construction, (5) improvement of black spots, (6) safety education, (7) driver training and testing, (8) public awareness, (9) vehicle standard, (10) legislations, (11) enforcement, (12) emergency assistance, (13) RS research and (14) accident costing and (15) collaboration.

The Lao Road Safety Institutions (under the Decree 252/PM, 6/11/2006) were identified and categorized into two levels: the National and Provincial levels. The National level consists of three entities namely: (1) the National Road Safety Committee (NRSC), (2) the NRSC Secretariat and (3) the NRSC Secretariat Office. The provincial level has two entities namely: (1) the Provincial Road Safety Committee (PRSC) and (2)

¹ Education, Enforcement, Environment, Emergency and Evaluation/Research.

² Driving Skill, Helmet, Visibility, Drink/Drive, Speeding, Traffic Management, Seatbelt

³ of two levels: National and Provincial Levels.

the PRSC Office. The NRSC is chaired by a Deputy Prime Minister and each PRSC is chaired by a Vice Governor of each province.

Each entity on both levels comprises a number of representatives from six sectors (Ministries): Public Works and Transport (PWT), Public Security (PS), Public Health (PH), Education (E), Information and Culture (IC) and Finance (F).

It is expected that ATRANS could contribute fulfilling the Road Safety Action Plan 9, 13 and others.