



## **Administrative Arrangement for the**

# **Labour Dialogue**

**between**

**the Ministry of Labour of the Kingdom of Thailand**

**and**

**the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission**

### ***Background***

The Ministry of Labour of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission, together with other ministries of the Royal Thai Government and with other services of the European Commission and the European External Action Service, have been cooperating on labour matters related to the fight against Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing since 2015. This cooperation has enabled the European Union and Thailand to exchange views and support progress in the fight against forced labour and in reducing the vulnerability of migrant workers to labour abuses, whose prevalence is high in the fishing and seafood sectors. The cooperation has proved relevant also to other sectors, thus leading both sides to consider turning the format of their meetings into a Labour Dialogue, which, without prejudice to the ongoing cooperation in the fishing and seafood sectors, would be broader in focus and have a longer term perspective.

Building on the positive outcomes of their cooperation so far, the establishment as from 2018 of an EU-Thailand Labour Dialogue between the Ministry of Labour of the Kingdom of Thailand and the European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, hereafter referred to as the sides, should aim to support both sides' efforts to promote decent work and to contribute through cooperation to the overall relations between the European Union and the Kingdom of Thailand.

### ***Objectives and scope***

The objectives of the Labour Dialogue should be to:

- Exchange information on relevant developments on labour matters on both sides,
- Promote cooperation, exchange of best practices and mutual learning on labour matters,
- Work together to promote decent work.

Labour matters under the Labour Dialogue should include, but are not limited to, matters relating to employment, social protection, rights at work including child labour and forced labour, social dialogue, equal treatment of women and men (Employment and Occupation), labour migration, responsible business conduct and sustainable development goals related to decent work.



### ***Format***

The Labour Dialogue should be co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Director General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission.

The Labour Dialogue should take place in the framework of regular meetings.

### ***Meetings***

A meeting in the framework of the Labour Dialogue should take place at least once a year at high level, alternatively in Thailand and in the European Union.

It is intended to organise an additional meeting at technical level at least once a year.

Additional meetings (via videoconference) and joint activities may be held upon agreement of the Co-Chairs.

The meetings should be co-chaired.

The agenda of each meeting, guided by relevant priorities that are of mutual interest or concern, its duration and format should be established by the Co-Chairs.

### ***Participants***

Both sides should designate a small number of senior officials representing their respective administrations at each meeting. The Delegations should be led by high-ranking representatives of the Thai Ministry of Labour and the European Commission Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour may invite representatives from other Thai Ministries, as appropriate.

The Director-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion should invite the European External Action Service and may invite representatives from other Commission services as appropriate.

The Co-Chairs may agree to invite experts or representatives of other bodies to the meeting to act as observers or provide information on a particular subject.

### ***Secretariat***

Each side should nominate an official from their respective administration to act as Secretary of the Labour Dialogue (single contact point). The two Secretaries should jointly handle the communication and preparatory work related to the meetings.



**Reporting and follow-up**

A joint record of discussion summarizing the meeting should be prepared by the Secretaries subject to the approval by both sides and be shared with all participants following each meeting.

***\*\*\*This Administrative Arrangement is not intended to create rights or obligations under domestic or international law and does not entail financial commitments. It should be periodically reviewed.\*\*\****



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The Director General for Employment,  
Social Affairs and Inclusion  
of the European Commission



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The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry  
of Labour of the Royal Thai Government

Brussels, 17 May 2018