

Report of Investigation Results No. 117/2561 in case of a claim that government agency issued an order forcing a group of water buffalo raisers to leave a public area

Background

A complainant petitioned the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand claiming that the complainant and other people in Baan Wiang Nuer community had been using Huay Giang public place which was registered with a public land Certificate land (PLC) no. 8630 (Nong Bua plot) in Wiang Subdistrict, Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province as a place for raising water buffalos together. Later Division 12 of Marine Police Division wished to use 25 rai (4 hectares) of this public place to construct buildings for its office and residence of police officers, Chiang Saen District Officer then assigned local administrators to organize a meeting to make local people understand and informed them that more government agencies wished to use this place as well and thus asked the complainant and Wiang Nuer Water Buffalo Raisers Settlement to move out of the place within 6 months and no compensation at all would be paid for demolition of the settlement.

Measures/guidelines for solving the problem

Chiang Rai Provincial Authority should take actions as follows:

1. The authority should check and take actions to solve problem in case that any government agency takes public place of the kind that citizens utilise together to use by itself without observing what is required by law.
2. The authority should protect public place of the kind that citizens utilise together according to a public land Certificate land (PLC) no. 8630, land no. 221 (Nong Bua plot) to be land that people utilise together according to its objectives and utilization conditions with measures to prevent more land encroachment in order to prevent wrongful utilization of that land.