



Declaration

on

Cooperation to Drive Forward the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in Thailand



The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Justice, the Thai Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade of Thailand, the Federation of the Thai Industries, the Thai Bankers Association and the Global Compact Network Thailand, being of the view that:

- National sustainable development will help uplift the well-being of all people in society where their human dignity is respected in conformity with the United Nations Sustainable Goals for the year 2030;
- Human rights are one of the core principles of sustainable development. The respect for universal human rights principles by all parties is considered a key factor in enabling the nation to fully achieve its sustainable development;
- The United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are recognized by the global community as one of the essential principles that will contribute to preventing, addressing, mitigating human rights impacts and reducing conflicts with individuals and community in relation to business operation;
- Effective implementation of the Guiding Principles needs the understanding and collaboration among all parties including government agencies, business sector and civil society;

Do hereby declare our joint commitment to drive forward the effective implementation of the Guiding Principles by undertaking actions both individually and collectively in accordance with the respective mandates of our organizations as follows:

1. Government Agencies

- To promote knowledge and understanding of the Guiding Principles and raise awareness on the corporate responsibility to respect human rights in conducting




business activities among relevant government agencies, state enterprises and the business sector;

- To facilitate collaborative actions among government agencies tasked with overseeing business conduct to ensure policy coherence and unity to promote respect for human rights by business enterprises;
- To ensure business respect for human rights in the formulation of policies and enactment of legislation relating to business conducts;
- To develop and adopt a national action plan on business and human rights that identifies goals and means of implementation aimed at promoting business respect for human rights. The process to develop the national action plan needs to be inclusive and open for participation of all parties concerned and be vested with a systematic monitoring and evaluation of its implementation;
- To encourage and support the work of civil society to protect victims of business-related human rights impacts;
- To provide technical support including by developing guidelines and other materials for stakeholders to enable them to bring the Guiding Principles into practice;
- To promote dialogue and sharing of experiences on implementation of the Guiding Principles between Thailand and other countries;

2. Business Organizations

- To raise awareness and foster understanding and knowledge about how to conduct business with respect for human rights by disseminating the Guiding Principles among members, partners and relevant stakeholders;
- To encourage members to integrate the Guiding Principles into their corporate policies and to further promote their implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- To promote participation of relevant stakeholders in their activities and build a network of entrepreneurs and stakeholders that are members to accord importance to business respect for human rights both at policy and operational levels;

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- To encourage members to establish or promote access to an operational – level grievance mechanism to address human rights impacts related to their business activities and to conduct a consultation process with relevant stakeholders to settle the disputes;
 - To encourage members to conduct human rights due diligence including assessment of human rights risks and impacts that may be potentially caused by their operations and those of their business partners in accordance with their specific operating contexts;

3. National Human Rights Commission

- To disseminate and foster knowledge and understanding about the Guiding Principles to relevant parties as well as to undertake educational and research activities aimed at their effective implementation;
- To monitor situations of real or potential business-related human rights impacts and make recommendations on preventive and remedial measures to concerned parties;
- To advise and assist those affected by business-related human rights impacts to have access to remedy through both judicial and other alternative mechanisms;
- To promote and facilitate dialogue and collaborative efforts among the National Human Rights Commission, government agencies, the business sector, civil society and the general public with a view to fully achieving the implementation of the Guiding Principles.

All parties that adopt this Declaration agree to follow up on the progress made and carry out consultations among them to promote effective implementation of the Guiding Principles.

This Declaration is done at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok, during the Seminar on “Disseminating and Driving Forward the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in Thailand” on 31 May 2017 and is jointly adopted by the following agencies/organizations:



State Agencies

(signed)

(Mr. What Tingsmitr)

Chairperson of the National Human Rights
Commission of Thailand

Business Organizations

(signed)

(Mr. Chen Numchaisiri)

Chairman of the Federation of the
Thai Industries

(signed)

(Mr. Suwaphan Tanyuwardhana)

Minister of Justice

(signed)

(Mr. Bhumindr Harinsut)

Vice Chairman of the Thai Chamber of
Commerce and the Board of Trade of Thailand

(signed)

(Mr. Don Pramudwinai)

Minister of Foreign Affairs

(signed)

(Mr. Payong Srivanich)

Member of the Thai Bankers Association
President and Executive Director of
Krung Thai Bank PCL

(signed)

(Mr. Sontirat sontijirawong)

Deputy Minister of Commerce

(signed)

(Mr. supachai Chearavanont)

Chairman of the Global Compact Network
Thailand