

**Rule of the Office of the Prime Minister on Thailand Trade Representatives,
B.E. 2552 (2009)**

Translation

In the interest of strengthening the unity and efficiency of the implementation of policies, strategies, positions and issues in relation to international trade and investment of the Government as well as international economic co-operation, it is expedient to have Thailand Trade Representatives as a mechanism therefor and to establish the Office of Thailand Trade Representatives with responsibilities for administrative and technical affairs in support of the operation of work of Thailand Trade Representatives.

By virtue of the provisions of Section 11 (6) and (8) of the Organization of Administration of the State Affairs Act, B.E. 2534 (1991), the Prime Minister, with the approval of the Council of Ministers, issues this Rule as follows:

Clause 1

This Rule is called the "Rule of the Office of the Prime Minister on Thailand Trade Representatives, B.E. 2552 (2009)".

Clause 2

This Rule shall come into force on the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Clause 3

In this Rule, "Office" means the Office of Thailand Trade Representatives; and "Head of the Office" means Head of the Office of Thailand Trade Representatives.

Clause 4

In the implementation of policies on international trade and investment, the Prime Minister, by virtue of Section 11 (6) of the Organization of Administration of the State Affairs Act, B.E. 2534 (1991), may appoint, from qualified persons, not more than five Advisors to the Prime Minister for assuming the duty as Thailand Trade Representatives. For this purpose, one of the appointees shall be appointed as President of Thailand Trade Representatives who shall take charge of coordinating the performance of duties of Thailand Trade Representatives.

Clause 5

Thailand Trade Representatives shall have the powers and duties as follows:

- (1) to be special envoys of the Prime Minister in negotiations with foreign countries or with international organizations in relation to international trade and investment as well as other matters incidental thereto to ensure compliance with strategies, policies and positions of the Government and the International Economic Policy Committee, in accordance with issues entrusted by the Prime Minister, and report to the Prime Minister;
- (2) to give recommendations and advice to the Prime Minister in connection with the pursuit of policies in relation to international trade and investment, international economic affairs as well as impacts arising therefrom or impacts on international trade and investment which may arise from the pursuit of other policies;
- (3) to give recommendations and advice to the Prime Minister in connection with the preparation of action plans and budgets in relation to international trade and investment of Government agencies and other State agencies concerned;

- (4) to integrate and co-ordinate the implementation of policies on international trade and investment under (2) and (3);
- (5) to instruct officials or any other persons concerned to give explanations, provide information or present opinions necessary for making decisions;
- (6) to appoint advisors in the sphere of international trade and investment for performing the work entrusted;
- (7) to perform any other activities as entrusted by the Prime Minister. For the purpose of the performance of work under paragraph one, the President of Thailand Trade Representatives and Thailand Trade Representatives shall be honored and entitled to remuneration and other benefits at the level equivalent to that accorded to Deputy Prime Minister or Minister, as the case may be.

Clause 6

There shall be established the Office of Thailand Trade Representatives within the Secretariat of the Prime Minister, Office of the Prime Minister and this Office shall have the powers and duties as follows:

- (1) to hold supportive responsibilities in administrative, technical and meeting affairs of Thailand Trade Representatives;
- (2) to provide Thailand Trade Representatives with information or suggested directions in relation to policies, strategies, positions, tactics and plans concerning negotiations, actual implementation and other activities incidental to international trade and investment;
- (3) to conduct studies, analyses and research on trade and investment policies and measures of Thailand's trading partners as well as short-term and long-term impacts therefrom and measures for handling such ensuing impacts, for supporting the operation of work of Thailand Trade Representatives;
- (4) to co-ordinate and request from agencies concerned information on the operation of work in connection with policies, strategies, positions, tactics and negotiation plans concerning trade and investment, measures for handling emerging impacts and other matters related to trade and investment;
- (5) to co-ordinate with agencies in public, private and civil sectors for the purpose of securing explanations, opinions or any information related to international trade and investment;
- (6) to request for secondment of personnel or a loan of material, equipment or stationery as well as the use of immovable property of agencies in the Central Administration, Provincial Administration or Local Administration, State enterprises, public organizations and other State agencies in the interest of the performance of work of the Office, as may be necessary; and
- (7) to carry out any other activities as entrusted by Thailand Trade Representatives.

Clause 7

The Head of the Office shall be an ordinary government official and shall exercise supervision over officials and employees of the Office as well as hold responsibilities for the performance of work of the Office.

Clause 8

Subject to provisions of law, for the purpose of the administration of work of the Office under this Rule, the Prime Minister may issue an order instructing government officials, public officials or employees of other State agencies, or the Office may request the Council of Ministers to pass a resolution instructing officials or employees of State enterprises or State agencies, to perform official duties at the Office, be it on a full-time or part-time

basis or as a matter of ad hoc mission, on the proviso that such performance of work shall be deemed as the regular performance of official duties or work.

Clause 9

The Secretariat of the Prime Minister may hire persons with proper knowledge and competence for assisting in its official work as is necessary and appropriate, for the execution of this Rule.

Clause 10

The expenditure for remuneration and other benefits of Thailand Trade Representatives and the expenditure incidental to the operation of the Office shall be paid out of the budgetary appropriation of the Secretariat of the Prime Minister.

Clause 11

For the purpose of performance of work of Thailand Trade Representatives under this Rule, Government agencies and other State agencies shall be under the obligation to co-operate with Thailand Trade Representatives and lend support to their performance of work.

Clause 12

There shall be established a revolving fund for the purpose of maneuvering international trade and investment policies and strategies as well as supporting the operation of work of Thailand Trade Representatives, provided that the establishment of such fund shall be in accordance with the law on such particular matter.

Clause 13

The Prime Minister shall have charge and control of the execution of this Rule.

Given on the 28th Day of January, B.E. 2552 (2009)

Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva

Prime Minister

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