

THAILAND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 31ST AIPA RESOLUTION

Social Matters

Resolution on Human Resource Development (Res31GA/2010/Soc/02)

Thailand by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board is on the process of formulating the 11th National Economic and Social Development Plan. The plan will be focusing on human resources development in the 21st Century. Such plan encompasses key areas as follows:

- empowering all societies to be able to make their choices to live their lives and to participate with dignity, in social, economic and political activities by encouraging a leeway of thinking, promoting media in creating new values and supporting the role of the private sectors in social development.
- promoting a life-long learning by creating learning opportunity for people of all ages to access to diverse sources of knowledge, cultivating the learning habit from the early stage of life, promoting the media and institutions as a source of creative learning, developing an alternative educational management system to generate high-quality opportunities.
- promoting cultural value as a driving force for the national economic and social development by reinforcing the role of social institutions, integrating the performance of all social units of family, community as well as national, regional, and global levels in a holistic manner and promoting a social responsibility of the private enterprises.
- developing science and technology, research, and innovation to expedite the economy growth. Also encouraging any researches to be utilized for both commercial and civil purposes that generating income and quality of life.
- reforming business laws as well as rules and regulations to promote a fair practice by creating norms of equal enforcement; reinforcing personnel and officials concerned enacting new laws for trade liberalization; revising existing laws and regulations to facilitate the production and protect the intellectual property rights.
- creating economic partnership in the region especially in human resources development and support Thai workers in foreign country.

Resolution on Persons with Disabilities (Res31GA/2010/Soc/03)

Thailand by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board has considered the resolution on person with disabilities from 31st General Assembly as a direction in formulation the 11th National Economic and Social Development plan. The crucial points from the plan are;

- enacting the law and supporting welfare for person with disabilities' quality of life, such as the Education for the Disabled People Act B.E. 2551 and the Promotion and Development of Quality of Life for the Disabled Act B.E. 2550.

- creating more opportunity for children, youth, disabled, poor, elderly and the underprivileged to access to social services on equity basis. Groups of person with disabilities have participated in the drafting the 11th National Economic and Social Development plan.

Resolution on Facilitating the Implementation of AIPA Resolutions on Preventing and Combating Illegal Drugs, and to Improve AIFOCOM Activities (Res31GA/2010/Soc/04)

Thailand by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board has implemented ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) as follows:

- 1. To push forward a drug-free ASEAN Community in 2015 through the improvement of legal frameworks and the creation of enabling conditions for ASEAN Governments to successfully implement national and regional action plans to prevent and combat illegal drugs;**

Thailand (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) hosted the International Seminar on Drug Control Law between ASEAN and China (ACCORD - ASEAN and China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs) as a venue for exchanging on drugs legislations. The seminar aimed to strengthen regional coordination, monitor regional progress, and provide policy-level commitment to reach the goal of “Drug free ASEAN and China” by 2015.

- 2. To harmonize substantial and procedural provisions of AIPA Member Countries respective laws and mutual assistance in combating illegal drugs;**

Thailand (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) has continued developing and enforcing law on illicit drug as well as enhancing network of control measures and improved law enforcement co-operation.

Thailand (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) attended the study visit on Law and Narcotics Cases Justice Process of the Judge of Appeal Court during 30 November - 4 September 2010 in Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

- 3. To follow the 1st AIPA Caucus report on the harmonization of illegal drug laws focusing on the capture and seizure of assets used in or possessed from drug-related cases;**

- To destroy drug sources, producers and dealers within the country**

Thailand has continued surveying and destroying narcotics plants for more than 30 years. An elimination measures have been implemented to eradicate harsh opium plants until no significant in epidemic has showed. In 2009/2010, 1,804 Rai of opium cultivation has been found while 1,738 Rai or 96.3 percents of opium cultivation areas were destroyed.

Thailand (Narcotics Law Enforcement Bureau) reported the 126,062 cases of drug seizures and 136,679 offenders throughout Thailand during the year

2010, with the captured of 50.4 million tablets of mixed Methamphetamine (Ya-ba), 136 kilograms of Heroin, 16.6 tons of dried Marijuana, 30 kilograms of Cocaine, 680 kilograms of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride crystal (ICE) and 15,883 tablets of Ecstasy.

Thailand (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) has operated special measure under section 27 of the Act on Measures for the Suppression of Offender in an Offence Relating to Narcotics B.E. 2534 (1991).

- **To cooperate with neighboring and regional countries in combating transnational drug dealers**

Thailand has cooperated with neighboring and regional countries such as China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Lao PDR, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Cambodia and Singapore in combating transnational drug networks. In 2010, Thailand incorporated with international counterparts mutually arrested the west-African drug networks in Asia. The cooperation resulted in the seizure of 6 kilograms of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride crystal (ICE) in Indonesia, 1.5 kilograms of Cocaine in India and six offenders. In addition, all parties concerned exchanged and shared information and experiences in combating drug dealers in bordered area.

4. **To encourage AIPA Member Countries to focus on mobilizing AIPA Member Countries resources for and giving emphasis to harm prevention programs and information exchange and dissemination, with the view to a drug-free ASEAN;**

Thailand (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Harm Reduction with Office of the Permanent Secretary for Public

Health, Department of Medical Services, Department of Communicable Disease Control and National Health Security Office on 25th June, 2009. The result of MOU includes free long term treatment for drug addicted person by using Methadone in 147 Rehabilitation Centers across the country.

Thailand (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) has cooperated with the concerned organizations on health, drug menace, justice and civil society, to develop policy on harm reduction and consider a project on Strengthening Public Security Harm Reduction Responses for the Prevention and Treatment of Drug Abuse related HIV Transmission in Custodial and Community Settings. This policy has been implemented by the Ministry of Public Health and supported by Office of the Narcotics Control Board, the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Office of the Attorney General, the Royal Thai Police, the Government Public Relations Department, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Pataya City and Civil Society.

The Prime Minister of Thailand has signed the Prime Minister's Order No 306/2553 (2010) which is called "Thailand's Strength to Permanently Overcome Drug Problem under Five-Defensive Fences Strategy Phase III (November 2010 - September 2011). The Order stipulated Harm Reduction measurement in 10 pilot provinces.

Thailand by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board has considered the above-mentioned resolution as a direction in formulation the 11th National Economic and Social Development plan. The crucial points from the plan is to strengthen a public administration system by adjusting a working process with people-centered approach, integrating all agents in developing laws and regulations for more expeditious an effective working process, such as “The 5 Fences Strategy”, emphasizing on cooperation among 5 territories, namely 1) Border Fence 2) Community Fence 3) Social Fence 4) School Fence and 5) Family Fence as well as cooperation among ASEAN nations which leads to efficiently drug controlling and reducing.

WAIPA (Meeting of Parliamentarians of AIPA)

Resolution on Strengthening Social Welfare and Development for Women and Children (Res31GA/2010/WAIPA/01)

Thailand gives priority to the protection and development of the people, in particular women and children, by stipulating in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2550, relevant laws and policies.

Thailand (The National Commission on Social Welfare) declares social welfare in the national agenda in order to turn Thailand into a Welfare Society by 2017 and to ensure universal access and coverage of the people in Thai society namely, Social Assistance, Social Insurance, Social Services and Social Promotion.

The Cabinet approved of a change in the social security system whereby 24 million workers in the informal sector now have a real opportunity of joining the social security system by getting the benefits from social security as far as sicknesses, childcare and other benefits of social security concerned according to the package that they select.

The Anti-Trafficking in Person Act B.E. 2007 which adopts a right-based approach to provide a more comprehensive protection of the victims has been enacted to prevent women and children who are easily trapped by organized crime gangs. The law includes the following key elements:

- 1) Heavier penalties on all persons involved in human trafficking
- 2) Compensation which victims may claim from the offender for any damages caused by human trafficking
- 3) Shelter and other necessities including physical, psycho-social, legal, educational and healthcare service provided to victims
- 4) Protection measures for all victims of trafficking regardless of their gender, nationality or legal status.

The Royal Thai Government provided social welfare services for trafficked victims particularly women and children including temporary shelters, education, vocational training, physical and psychological recovery, telephone counseling, legal assistance and safe repatriation process.

Thailand by the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand

(NHRCT) formulated the 5-year strategic plan (2011-2016), focusing, in particular, on violation of human rights and discrimination towards the vulnerable group, including promotion and protection of the rights of women and children.

The NHRCT Sub-Committee on Investigation of Human Rights Violation against Women, Children, and Disabled people, and Equality was set up to overseeing and finding a fact of any complaints of actions in violating human rights or not in compliance to international human rights, to which Thailand is the party. It also submits policy recommendation to the cabinet or the parliament.

At regional level, Thailand, as a Member, has attended the meeting under the cooperation among the Southeast Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF), comprising of Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Timor-Leste, to share and exchange views in order to deal with problems emerging from women and children trafficking, and to work closely with ASEAN Commission on Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) to harmonize the working plans between two organizations.

Thailand by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board has considered the above-mentioned resolution as a direction in formulation the 11th National Economic and Social Development plan. The crucial points from the plan is to support a life-long learning and vocational training by developing human resources to reach to a wide range of knowledge and education for available employment in the future. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security has initiated the vocational training project for underprivileged women, women at risk and facing social problem.

Resolution on Roles of Women in Economic Recovery after the Financial Crisis (Res31GA/2010/WAIPA/02)

Thailand (The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security) supports the opportunity and efficiency of women entrepreneurs, such as establishing Thai Women SMEs Association (TWoSA), creating business network for women entrepreneurs, establishing Women Business Incubation Center, giving consultation service for women entrepreneurs, and managing an e-training system for improving the information technology skills of women.

Resolution on Increasing of Women Representation in Politics (Res31GA/2010/WAIPA/03)

Thailand recognizes the gender equity in politics as stipulated in the Constitution and the 10th National Economic and Social Development Plan with an aim to increase the proportion of women candidates both national and local levels by creating cooperative network among public sectors, NGOs and women's organizations to provide knowledge of the constitution and related laws and arranging the training course on local politics for women before an election.

Thailand has set an MDG plus target to double women's political representation in parliament, sub-district administrative organizations and executive positions in the civil service.

Four Thai women have been elected, as members, in international organizations, namely the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the World Heritage Committee (WHC), the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), and the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC).