

AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

The Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, hereafter known as the Parties:

Inspired by the traditional links of friendship and the cordial relations, which exist between them;

Desirous of developing and intensifying their economic, industrial, technical and technological cooperation on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit;

Conscious of the necessity of existence of an adequate legal network for Czech-Thai relations in accordance with the applicable legislation and regulations in the two states, respectively,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

Objectives

The Parties agree that the objectives of the Agreement, subject to laws and regulations in force in each state, are to:

- (a) Promote the activities of sectors identified in this Agreement in endeavours to increase bilateral economic, industrial, technical and technological cooperation;
- (b) Support and develop business contacts and related opportunities;
- (c) Facilitate the expansion of bilateral investment and the identification of economic and investment opportunities in their respective states;
- (d) Encourage cooperation in areas of mutual interest, especially finance, banking, and activities related to economic and social development; and
- (e) Reinforce development cooperation for the overall enhancement of the economic relationship between the two Parties.

ARTICLE II

Economic and Industrial Cooperation

The Parties share a commitment to the principles of free market economy. They consequently agree to encourage and facilitate greater cooperation between their natural and legal persons including business communities, associations, institutions, and government agencies, subject to laws and regulations in force in each state. To this end, they agree to:

1. Economic Cooperation

- (a) Exchange information on the economic development priorities, national economic plans and forecasts;
- (b) Identify and facilitate investment opportunities in the private sector and parastatal enterprises by:
 - (i) informing each other on the laws and regulations governing foreign investment and any changes thereto;
 - (ii) identifying specific projects and sectors of potential interests for joint cooperation;
 - (iii) informing their respective business communities of investment opportunities in the other state; and
 - (iv) encouraging the expansion of financial and banking cooperation;
- (c) Promote and support economic and investment missions, market analyses, exchange of commercial and marketing information, business and institutional linkages, and other initiatives which bring together potential business partners;
- (d) Inform each other of the existing facilities concerning industrial fairs, exhibitions, missions and other promotional activities;
- (e) Facilitate an exchange of public and private sector experts, technicians, investors and business representatives, as well as material and necessary equipment for the fulfilment of activities falling within the scope of this Agreement; and
- (f) Explore joint business development possibilities in third states arising from partnership between Czech and Thai firms;

2. Industrial Cooperation

Promote and enhance private and public sectors' industrial, technical and technological cooperation, including transfer of technology through appropriate channels in full respect of intellectual property rights and in accordance with their respective economic and development policies and priorities by facilitating and encouraging:

- (a) Establishment of joint ventures;
- (b) Exchange of information on technologies and know-how, licensing arrangements and industrial consultancy;
- (c) Transfer of technology through know how, training and research programmes in order to promote the application, adaptation, and improvement of existing and new technical products, processes and management skills;
- (d) Initiatives to improve quality control and standards for products notably for export;
- (e) Contacts between the respective industry, science and technology communities; and
- (f) Exchanges of views on the formulation and application of science and technology policies.

ARTICLE III

Development Cooperation

The Parties share a commitment to the concept of development cooperation. Under this Agreement, they have agreed to work together to encourage and facilitate greater involvement of private sector in the industrial and technological growth of both states. The Parties shall make special efforts to foster long-lasting linkages between their public and private sectors by identifying development projects that would:

- (a) Strengthen both states' planning and economic management institutions through technical assistance and other mechanisms;
- (b) Promote the implementation of human resource development through projects linking Czech and Thai educational, training and research institutions, with particular attention to programmes that would enhance the capacity of Thai and Czech organisations to utilise new technologies appropriate to their developmental needs;
- (c) Assist in the implementation of rural and regional industrialisation, particularly with respect to the needs of small and medium-sized industries; and
- (d) Encourage, support and facilitate programmes of the public and private sectors in the business development.

ARTICLE IV

Areas of Cooperation

The principal areas of cooperation shall be in sectors of respective economic, industrial and developmental priorities of the Parties, which may include:

- (a) Natural resources, including resource management in Forestry, Fisheries, Livestock and Mining;
- (b) Human resource development, in particular know-how and training programmes;
- (c) Energy;
- (d) Metallurgy including Metal-working Industry;
- (e) Industrial Equipment and Components;
- (f) Electric and Electro-technical Industry;
- (g) Chemical and Petrochemical Industry;
- (h) Fashion Industry;

- (i) Tourism;
- (j) Cooperation between small and medium-sized businesses;
- (k) Agriculture and Food Processing;
- (l) Environment including waste management and water treatment;
- (m) Information and Communication Technology;
- (n) Defence Industry;
- (o) Transportation;
- (p) Science and Technology; and
- (q) Other fields of cooperation that may be mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE V

Institutions

1. Implementation of this Agreement shall require close coordination and consultation between the two Parties. Consequently, a Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation is hereby established by the Parties to accomplish the objectives of this Agreement. The Joint Commission shall meet at regular intervals at the Ministerial level. The Joint Commission meetings should be held alternately in the Czech Republic and in Thailand, unless otherwise agreed upon in particular cases.
2. For each Party the following Coordinating Agency shall coordinate and oversee the implementation of this Agreement:
 - (a) In case of the Czech Republic, the Coordinating Agency shall be the Ministry of Industry and Trade, represented by the Minister of Industry and Trade as a co-chairman of the Joint Commission; and
 - (b) In case of Thailand, the Coordinating Agency shall be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs as a co-chairman of the Joint Commission.

3. The Joint Commission can establish committees or working groups as may be necessary. As appropriate, the Commission may involve representatives of relevant organisations and institutions as well as high-ranking business representatives of both states, to assist the implementation of the Agreement. This may include private sector participation in specialised working groups.

4. Unless the Joint Commission otherwise decides, the Coordinating Agencies shall present to it at each of its regular meetings reports covering the activities of working groups which may be established under this Agreement.

5. Tasks of the Joint Commission

Cooperation should cover economic fields of interest to both sides. Within the framework of laws and regulations in force in both states, the following topics in particular should form the basis of the Joint Commission's activities:

- (a) exchange of opinions on macroeconomic issues in the two states;
- (b) exchange of experience and enhanced cooperation in economic issues of mutual interest;
- (c) issues arising in connection with business and investment activities; and
- (d) promotion of economic, industrial, technical and technological cooperation between natural and legal persons of states of both Parties.

The activities of the Joint Commission could be capable of being extended, by mutual consent, to include other economic or business policy topics.

ARTICLE VI
Final Provisions

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature, and shall continue to be in force for an indefinite period unless terminated upon written notification by one of the Parties to the other, the termination being effective six months after delivery of the notice of termination.
2. At the request of either Party, this Agreement may be revised in written form by mutual consent.
3. The revision or termination of this Agreement shall not affect arrangements and contracts already concluded under this Agreement.
4. This Agreement shall apply without prejudice to the obligations arising from the membership of the Czech Republic in the European Union. The provisions of this Agreement may not be invoked or understood in such a way as to rescind or otherwise affect the obligations, arising from international agreements concluded by the European Economic Community or by the European Community and its member states of one part and jointly by members of Association of South-East Asian Nations or by the Kingdom of Thailand, of the other part.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised for this purpose, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Bangkok on the 23rd day of January 2013 in two originals in the English language.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

(Martin Kuba)
Minister of Industry and Trade

(Surapong Tovichakchaikul)
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs