



Aide-mémoire for Thailand's Candidature for re-election to the IMO Council (Category C) 2022-2023

Thailand has been a long-standing member of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) since 1973 and continues to actively advance cooperation and collaboration with the Organisation and its member states on the principles of constructive dialogues and sovereign equality. With a strategic geographical location in Southeast Asia, Thailand is a prominent maritime state in seaborne trade and shipping facilitation as well as a major logistics hub in the region. Low logistics costs, excellent services, and connectivity through multimodal transport positions Thailand's ports among the world's top 20 busiest container ports.

To continue its constructive role in the IMO and serve the collective interest of the global maritime community, Thailand is pleased to present its candidature for re-election to the Council of the IMO in Category C for the term 2022 – 2023.

Thailand and the Global Community

As a member of the United Nations since 1946, Thailand upholds the principles enshrined in the UN Charter. Being a host country to more than 30 different UN agencies and offices, Thailand is strongly committed to enhancing multilateral partnerships and close collaboration with the global community to achieve common goals and targets including, but not limited to, the following:

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Thailand has integrated the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs into national policies and plans at all levels, including the 20-Year National Strategy and the 12th Economic and Social Development Plan. The Royal Thai Government's implementation of the SDGs is coordinated by the National Committee on Sustainable Development, chaired by the Prime Minister, to ensure policy coherence and a whole-of-government approach. As such, Thailand has launched the SDG Roadmap to guide the country's path towards achieving the SDGs.

Thailand stands ready to work and exchange knowledge and experiences with all countries, UN entities, and relevant stakeholders to achieve the SDGs, particularly through South-South and Trilateral Cooperation. Thailand also hosts the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD), which was established in 2019 during Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship and is the focal point for sustainable development cooperation at the sub-regional level.

Climate Change

Thailand commits to reducing its GHG emissions from energy and transport, industrial processes and waste management sector by 20%-25% or approximately 111-138.75 MtCO₂eq by 2030.



To reach this target, the Ministry of Transport established the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Action Plan (2021-2030) in the field of transport to support 31 MtCO₂eq of GHG emission reductions by 2030. Thailand will implement the Action Plan through a series of maritime-related projects and introducing green innovation, including the development of Electric Vessels (EV) serving passengers in the mass transit system.

The Port Authority of Thailand's Green Port Project has reduced GHG emissions by more than 6,000 TCO₂eq. The project consists of activities such as the adoption of port automation, use of alternative and renewable energy, deployment of energy efficiency equipment and application of Slow Steaming Concept which could be in line with the MEPC resolution and the work of IMO. Thailand has received international recognition, such as the Green Port Award System (GPAS) by APEC Port Services Network (APSN) and Port Safety, and the Health and Environmental Management System (PSHEMS) by Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) in collaboration with IMO. Thailand has also increased transport modal shift from road to rail and waterway which is expected to contribute to 5% of the total GHG emissions reduction goal in the transport sector.

Marine Debris

There is an urgent need for strong regional collaboration among members of the global maritime community to effectively address the negative impact of marine debris on the environment, marine biodiversity, economy, and peoples' health and well-being. Thailand, as the Chair of ASEAN in 2019, initiated two important guiding documents to reduce marine debris in the region, namely, the Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region and ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris.

To translate these agreements into concrete actions, Thailand took the lead in developing the draft ASEAN Regional Action Plan (RAP) for Combating Marine Debris, which aims to enhance coordination at the regional and international levels to achieve sustainable management of coastal and marine environments in the next 5 years. The RAP will support regional capacity building to reduce plastic pollution, improve the current national action plan of each ASEAN country by identifying solutions to the problem along the value chain, and help track the progress through the development of the baseline indicators.

In addition, to achieve SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development and support the implementation of the IMO Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Debris from Ships, a new system of marking fishing gear, based existing regional agreements and instruments of the FAO, has been introduced to control Thai fishing vessels from littering international waters.



Thailand actively raises awareness on this issue at the community level through a clean-up initiative that engages local fishermen to collect marine litter and bring it back to land shore. This initiative collected an estimated 127,550 kilograms of waste during November 2019 to December 2020. Thailand has included this project in the Roadmap on Plastic Waste Management 2018-2030 with the goal to decrease plastic litter by approximately 0.78 million tonnes per year.

In 2021, Thailand was selected as one of the 20 participating countries in the Norway-IMO-FAO GloLitter Partnerships Project, which aims to assist developing countries in preventing and reducing marine litter through capacity building and knowledge sharing. This will enable Thailand to contribute in the international initiatives to develop best practice guidelines and capacity building tools to enhance waste management in ports as well as create global awareness.

Sustainability in Marine Resources

As a responsible maritime nation, Thailand has recognised the problems of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the context of IMO by participating in IUU-fishing activities organised by IMO as well as successfully implementing the ship registration system. Thailand has also reformed the legislative framework to strengthen fishery management and implemented international fishing standards in compliance with FAO guidelines and recommendations.

Thailand has supported international efforts to combat IUU fishing by establishing cooperation for technology and knowledge sharing, as well as capacity building between ASEAN and the EU. As the Chair of ASEAN in 2019, Thailand took a leading role in establishing the ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fisheries (AN-IUU). The AN-IUU Network Centre in Thailand and the ASEAN IUU Fishing Task Force were introduced to enhance collective efforts to adopt and implement plans against IUU fishing.

Seafarers as “Key Workers”

Thailand joins the IMO and the global maritime community in recognising the importance of seafarers in maintaining the global supply chains amidst the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. In a speech delivered at the Day of the Seafarers 2020, the Thai Deputy Minister of Transport recognised seafarers as “Key Workers”. Thailand has assisted over 3,900 seafarers during the pandemic by providing necessary medications and facilitating their returns.



Development Partnership and Technical Cooperation

Thailand has provided fellowships, training equipment, learning materials, and sends speakers and consultants to participate in international projects to enhance cooperation and partnership with the IMO and its member states.

In 2019, Thailand, in collaboration with the IMO and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), hosted a maritime regional workshop titled “United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF): A process to mainstream the maritime sector”. This event was the very first joint forum on maritime-related SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region and will be a basis for similar regional arrangements in the future.

Furthermore, Thailand will continue to support the IMO on technical cooperation such as fraudulent ship registration, domestic ferry safety, and the development of port regulatory framework.

Thailand and the work of IMO

As a member of the IMO Council, Thailand reaffirms its full commitment to make substantial contributions to the work of the IMO to further strengthen the global maritime community to ensure safe and secured shipping in clean oceans and enhance sustainable maritime connectivity. Thailand will continue to exchange experiences, best practices, and serve as a bridge between developed and developing states in the region and other regions in implementing IMO conventions and the related instruments.

To fulfill the requirements of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL), Thailand strives to accelerate digitalisation to enhance the efficiency of maritime administration and operations through facilitating maritime databases with stakeholders. The Port Community System (PCS), which is being developed, will allow public and private stakeholders of the port operations to securely exchange logistics information and submit necessary documents under a single platform. The data from PCS will also integrate with the databases of the National Single Window and Maritime Single Window systems, which will ease the harmonisation of data management.

Moreover, Thailand will continue to prioritise improving the quality of maritime education and training through the provision of fellowships and scholarships on maritime and port study programmes and will continue to contribute to the IMO Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) and the World Maritime University.



Women empowerment will continue to be at the forefront of Thailand's gender equality agenda. Thailand stresses its utmost support for women empowerment and representation in the international maritime sector through the establishment of career development opportunities and capacity building activities for women.

Thailand's vision for the IMO

Maritime transport is a crucial component of the global economy; therefore, ensuring a safe and clean ocean is an objective that Thailand will always uphold. Thailand will continue to contribute to the IMO and its members on technical cooperation and capacity building programs for developing countries. And as a Council Member, Thailand will keep working with the IMO in advocating for safety standards for key workers at the sea who play an important part in stabilising the global maritime connectivity, even during this pandemic. Thailand is committed to enhance global partnership between members of all regions and support the diversity of ideas within the IMO in order to strengthen the international maritime policies for the betterment and sustainability of the future generation.

The invaluable support for Thailand's re-election to the IMO Council in Category C for the term 2022-2023 at the upcoming 32nd Session of the IMO Assembly will give Thailand the opportunity to further its contribution for the collective benefits of the global maritime community.

THAILAND

as a Responsible Maritime Nation

THAILAND'S FLEET



In 2019, Thailand's fleet ranked



CONTAINER TRADE VOLUME



(2020)

MIL TEUS. **10.58** THAILAND



LAEM CHABANG PORT **7.64**
(Smart and Sustainable Port) Mil TEUS.

PORT RANKING



(UNCTAD, 2020)

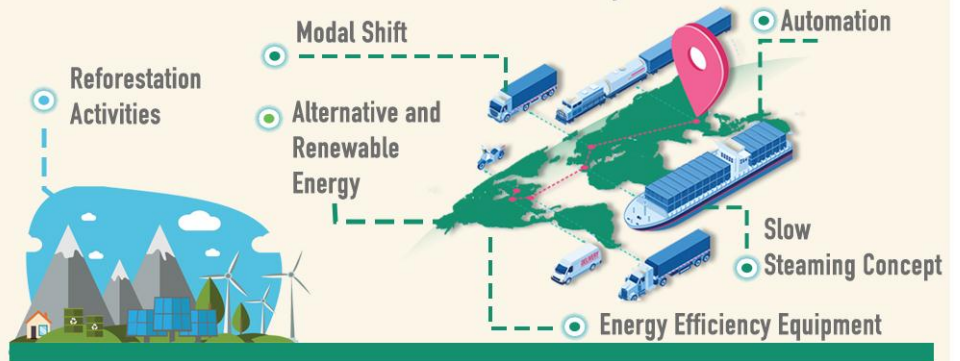
20th of top world container ports
LAEM CHABANG PORT

5%



GREEN PORT

GHG Emission Reduction by 2021 (baseline 2015)



MARITIME CONNECTIVITY

(UNCTAD, 2020)

Liner Shipping Network



Laem Chabang port

111
direct port connections

THAILAND PERFORMANCE

(World Bank)



Logistics Performance Index 2018

Rank **32th**
(160 countries)
score **3.41**

Doing Business 2020

21st
(190 countries)
80.10