



## **WHO WE ARE**

The Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand (JFCCT) membership includes some 33 foreign Chambers of Commerce and foreign Business Association members, with some 9,000 end member companies. Most foreign chambers of commerce are members. JFCCT has supported the foreign business community in Thailand for over forty years.

JFCCT's Presidents' Council meets monthly (10 x per annum), as does its core team; its five committees each meet approximately once per month, and ad hoc working groups (on a number of topics) meet as needed.

JFCCT collaborates with:

- (i) foreign non-member chambers and associations on many areas of common interest; and
- (ii) relevant committees of all members chambers via an open dialogue offer; and
- (iii) Board of Trade and other industry groups

aiming to build consensus in the foreign business community, in order to engage in dialogue with Ministers, senior government officials and government agencies.

Our mission is to promote trade and foreign direct investment, encourage skills development and transfer with the overall aim of contributing to the economy in which we live and work and to which we have made our commitments.

JFCCT does not take a protectionist approach; rather supports the idea that an innovative, competitive economy benefits all.

The JFCCT aims to contribute to the economic development of Thailand in a positive way, across all sectors of the economy. Through education, discourse and collaboration, rather than by making demands, the JFCCT aims to build consensus amongst its constituent members and work with all others in the economy on proposing solutions and through collaborating on problem solving. Mechanisms also include seminars, conferences, forums and published recommendations by Policy Papers and specific submissions.

We thus do and will continue to propose and recommend positive developments and oppose threats which would undermine in the long term Thailand's economic development. We draw on the experience and expertise of our members in making our contributions. We see ourselves as champions for the best ways to support making Thailand a leader in being attractive for foreign investment, and in attracting the most valuable kinds of foreign investment.

JFCCT welcomes participation and engagement on any relevant topic of business interest.



## **ECONOMY-WIDE TOPICS AND ISSUES WE ADDRESS**

- Work Permit & Visa; 39 Professions: supporting business visitors with a clear definition of 'work'; going on line; making a policy difference between skilled and unskilled.
- Foreign Business Act; service sector liberalization: remove restrictions, also in professions
- Anti-Corruption: education; Code of Conduct, collective intolerance of corruption.
- Rule of Law, Arbitration and Guillotine.

## **SPECIFIC SECTOR TOPICS AND ISSUES WE ADDRESS**

- Education and Skills: educational reform; pedagogical effectiveness; move away from rote learning; partnering with schools to enhance effectiveness.
- Digital Economy / ICT: Innovation; telecoms (& SOE) structural reform; spectrum (affordable mobile broadband), cybersecurity, personal data protection/privacy, fake news, Trusted Internet, fintech, eCommerce tax.
- International Trade: on top of FTAs, Customs – re-export of goods; New Customs Act issues; rewards continue; Dual use goods
- SMEs: Clear the regulatory burden; Withhold tax / VAT issues; Recognise foreign SMEs; Access to Finance
- Tourism: foreign tour guides, safety & security, environmental sustainability; eVisas
- Agriculture: 40% of workforce but 10% of GDP; innovation; agri-tech; smart farming
- Banking & Financial services: payments system developing well; access to affordable finance.
- Energy: sustainability; energy security, renewables policy; ease of project approvals; LNG

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