

Congratulatory Address: JFCCT Chairman **control 1.2**

Seminar to Exchange Information on Corruption Prevention and Corruption Suppression *between Office of The National Anti-Corruption Commission and Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand*

Friday 30 August 2019 BE 2562

Welcome to

- Pol.Gen.Watcharapol Prasarnrajkit, NACC President
- Distinguished members of the NACC and its office
- Officers of the Royal Thai government
- Directors and Members of foreign chambers of commerce & business associations
- Representatives of industry organizations
- Ladies and gentlemen

Five years ago JFCCT and NACC signed an MoU for mutual collaboration.

Major achievements in that time:

The government has stepped up changes in reforms and economic and social development

A new, consolidated Organic Act on Counter Corruption has been passed last year (2018)

Respect for overall anti-corruptions efforts has increased and JFCCT and NACC have formally met annually to share experience and learning. Longer term projects continue.

And in that time, NACC has continued its sometimes lonely efforts to champion anti-corruption.

Perception: the Corruption Perception Index has not moved much – with Thailand 99 / 180 countries in 2018 index.

Toleration of corrupt practices and acceptance as the norm have reduced.

Corporate Governance standards of SET listed companies commands respect. The Thai IoD continues to champion anti-corruption through CAC and the Anti Corruption Organisation of Thailand (ACT) as the two key bodies.

Corrupt practices always takes at least two parties. In the **private sector** we need to continue to do our part to reduce corruption. We continue to:

- Make members aware of effects of corruption - Educate
- Engage in meaningful ways in anti – corruption organisations. Take responsibility to achieve outcomes.
- Bring to members' attention legal and policy changes; including the importance of implementing internal controls
- Provide recommendations on measures to reduce corruption.
- Support peer pressure / collective action

JFCCT is not an enforcement body but we can (and do) aim to make an impact.

For public bodies,

Only so much which can be done by increasing penalties. Many believe they can get away with various practices for example by not being caught in the first place. Awareness of laws and implementing changes in our companies so that they are respected is a positive step.

We very much support NACC gaining any additional tools it needs in order to be effective.

Again let us offer our ***sincere congratulations*** to the NACC for its efforts and let us champion the reduction or corruption so that practices are absolutely minimal and the negative impact is removed.

I will now hand back to the MC and wish all an excellent and useful seminar.

SOME BACKGROUND NOTES

2018 Corruption Perception Index – Thailand ranks 99/180 equal with the Philippines, Tanzania, Albania, Bahrain. In spite of changes to the law, greater private sector engagement the ranking has not materially changed over the past few years.

<https://www.transparency.org/cpi2018>

Rule of Law

<http://www.ifcct.org/major-business-issues/glossary/>

Term or Acronym	Description
Rule of Law	The concept that Laws enacted by a recognized process, as part of a system of law, rule over all other means of power and control. More and More . 'Law and Order' is a different concept.

Term or Acronym	Description
ACN	Anti-Corruption Network. A private-sector body. Former name (up to 2012) of Anti-Corruption Organisation of Thailand (ACT), see ACT. More
ACT	Anti Corruption Organisation of Thailand, a Foundation from 2014. Formerly ACN. More

<http://www.anticorruption.in.th/2016/en/about1.php>

Term or Acronym	Description
CAC	Collective Action Coalition Against Corruption, a private sector project of Thai IoD which acts as the secretariat. More See also ACT.

<https://www.thai-cac.com/>