

Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin,
Prime Minister Office
Government House, 1 Pissanulok Road
Dusit, Bangkok 10300, Thailand

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Dear Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin,

Concerning Developments that Would Reverse Thailand's Critical Fishery Reforms

We congratulate you on your new position.

The Seafood Task Force has been working alongside the Royal Thai Government since 2014, and we reaffirm our support for the meaningful steps that your government has taken to reform the legal and regulatory framework for the seafood industry so far.

However, we have recently been made aware of concerning developments that would represent a backward step and that would affect key international human rights standards and anti-IUU measures. This includes the reinstatement of at-sea trans-shipment, crew transfers whilst at sea, extension of allowable fishing days, and the renewal of fishing licenses to previously impounded commercial vessels.

If these developments were to be enacted, Thailand and its seafood sector would suffer a further reputational blow just as improvements have been made.

We remain committed to working with you and with international seafood suppliers to ensure that all of the Royal Thai Government's important reforms are implemented effectively, but we are seeking clarity from you that there is no intention to reverse any of these critical reforms.

The Seafood Task Force will hold its annual meeting in Bangkok this month, between 16 and 18 October. We are respectfully asking if a small group from our Leadership could meet with you during this time to seek this clarity.

Thailand's ongoing demonstration of global leadership is especially important to the country's position as a top seafood exporter and we reiterate our commitment to supporting the Royal Thai Government's efforts to continue to build traceable, ethical, and sustainable supply chains.

Yours sincerely



Ken Kimble - Chairman, Seafood Task Force

CC:

Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Capt Thamanat Prompow

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Parnpree Bahiddha-Nukara

Ministry of Commerce, Phumtham Wechayachai

Ministry of Labour, Pipat Ratchakitprakarn

