



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2009/SOM1/012anx4
Agenda Item: IV

Presentation by Thailand for Individual Action Plan Peer Review

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: APEC Secretariat



**First Senior Officials' Meeting – Plenary
Session
Singapore
16 February 2009**

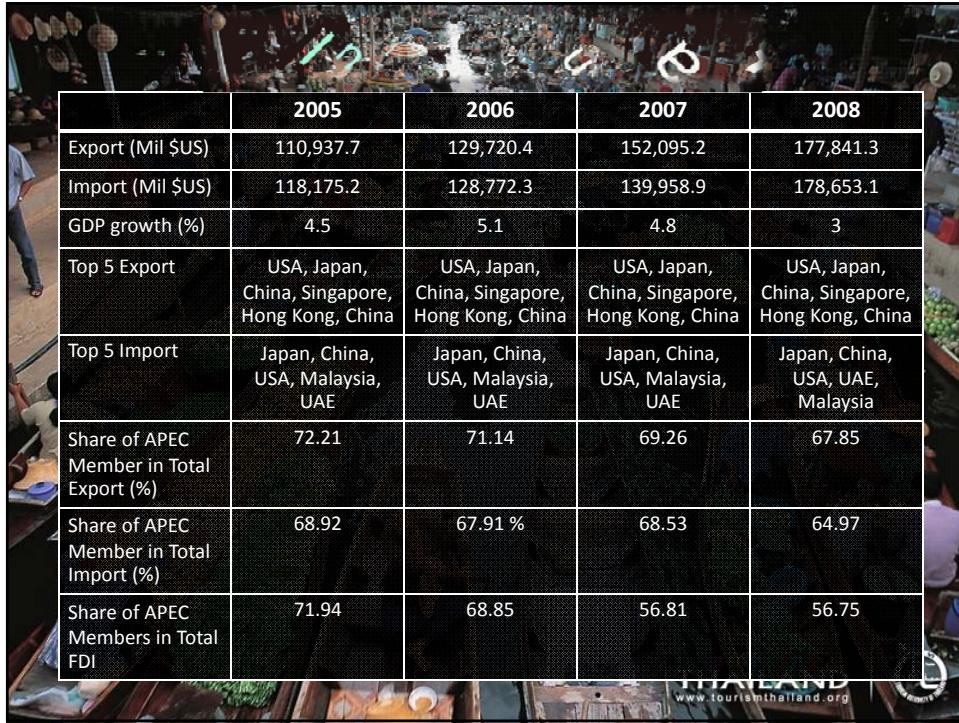


 2004 Tsunami

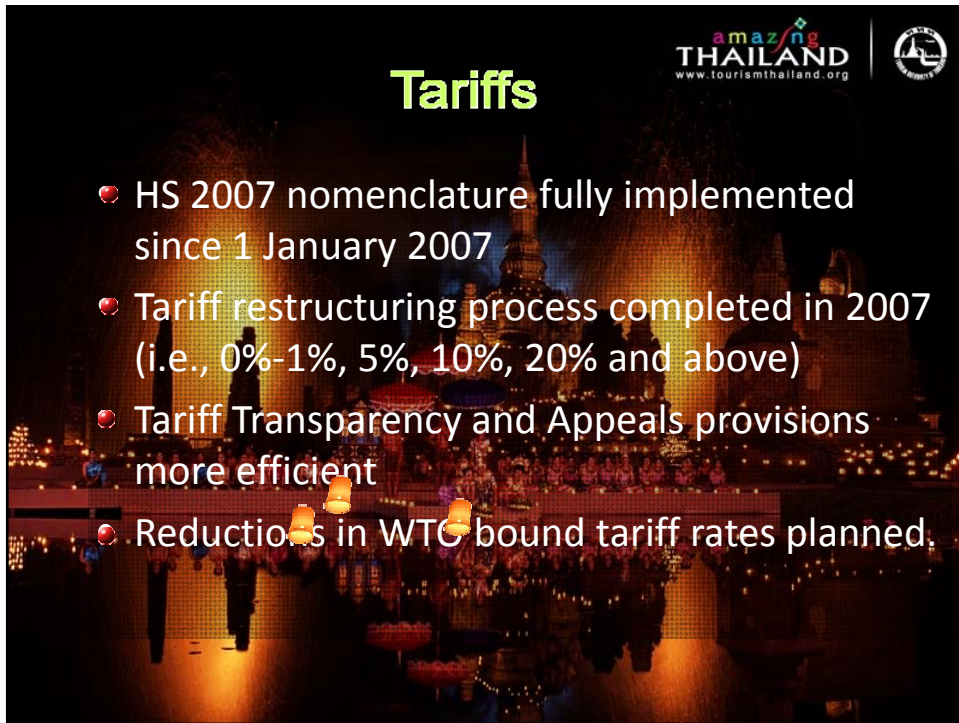
 Volatile Oil Prices



 Political Unrest

 Global Financial Crisis



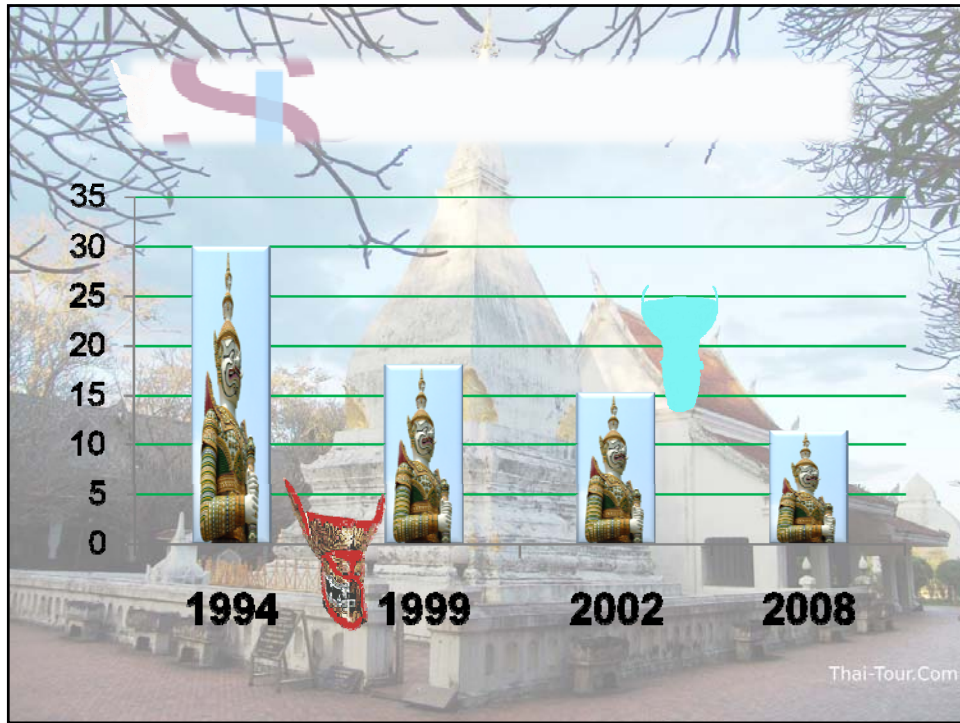
	2005	2006	2007	2008
Export (Mil \$US)	110,937.7	129,720.4	152,095.2	177,841.3
Import (Mil \$US)	118,175.2	128,772.3	139,958.9	178,653.1
GDP growth (%)	4.5	5.1	4.8	3
Top 5 Export	USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China	USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China	USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China	USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China
Top 5 Import	Japan, China, USA, Malaysia, UAE	Japan, China, USA, Malaysia, UAE	Japan, China, USA, Malaysia, UAE	Japan, China, USA, UAE, Malaysia
Share of APEC Member in Total Export (%)	72.21	71.14	69.26	67.85
Share of APEC Member in Total Import (%)	68.92	67.91 %	68.53	64.97
Share of APEC Members in Total FDI	71.94	68.85	56.81	56.75



Tariffs

- HS 2007 nomenclature fully implemented since 1 January 2007
- Tariff restructuring process completed in 2007 (i.e., 0%-1%, 5%, 10%, 20% and above)
- Tariff Transparency and Appeals provisions more efficient
- Reductions in WTO bound tariff rates planned.



NTMS

- ◆ TRQ Administration consistent with WTO
- ◆ Discretionary Import licensing relaxed.
- ◆ Import controls on new six-wheeled buses with over 30 seats abolished.
- ◆ Local content and export requirements removed

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www.TourismThailand.org

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-  **Initiated a new licensing scheme to liberalize securities businesses within five years.**
-  **Implemented Financial Sector Master Plan 1 allowing foreign banks to establish branches and subsidiaries.**
-  **Financial Sector Master Plan 2 will address question of increasing market access and competition.**
-  **Relax foreign ownership restrictions in commercial banks and insurance companies.**

- 
-  **National Telecommunications Commission established to oversee implementation of Telecommunications Act.**
 -  **Promote free and fair competition in telecommunication service under Telecom Master Plan for 2008-2010**
 -  **Plan to participate in APEC TEL MRA Phase I and if possible Phase II**

The slide features a background image of an offshore oil rig at sea. At the top left, there is a yellow and black power plug icon. At the top right, there is an icon of a person in a red uniform standing next to a green car. The title 'Energy Services' is written in a large, orange, sans-serif font across the top center.

Energy Services

New Energy Industry Act introduced in 2007. Energy Regulatory Commission appointed to oversee electricity and natural gas operations. The new law aims to:

- Further promote IPP, SPP, and VSPP,
- Promote use of natural gas vehicles,
- Facilitate LNG procurement plans from foreign sources,
- Promote use of biofuels,
- Promote energy efficiency,
- Promote nuclear power generation, and
- Exercise Carbon Credit scheme in line with Kyoto Protocol.

The slide has a background image of an industrial facility with tall chimneys and pipes. At the top center, the word 'investment' is written in a yellow, lowercase, sans-serif font. On the left side, there are two small icons of the state of Indiana. The text is in a blue, sans-serif font.

investment

Investment promotion policy provides greater investment freedom for investors.

New measures introduced by the govt include:

- + Promoting high tech industries
- + Promoting infrastructure investments and investments in designated industrial zones.
- + Improving and streamlining procedures for obtaining business licenses.
- + Establishing an Investment Service Center.

ns Proc

- E-customs fully operational
- Preparing to accede to the Revised Kyoto Convention
- Undertaking ASEAN Single Window pilot project
- Hopeful of signing the letter of intent to follow WCO's secure provisional standards

Standards and Conformance

- Aligned 738 industrial standards with international standards
- Is a member of ISO, IEC and ITU
- To become a signatory of PAC and IAF Multilateral Recognition Agreement
- Completed alignment of standards with international standards in first priority area agree by the SCSC
- Participate in APEC Food MRA Pathfinder
- Transparency requirements for standards and conformance
- comply with the Code of Good Practice, WTO TBT obligations, and APEC Transparency Standards; and
- Established website www.tisi.go.th to disseminate information on standards and conformance in Thailand.

Intellectual Property Rights

-  **Intellectual Property Center (IPC) established**
 -  **Promote Creation of Innovations and IPR**
 -  **Strengthen Public Education and Awareness**
 -  **Create Networks to Distribute IP Knowledge**
 -  **Promote Commercialization of IP**
-  **Effective Enforcement (Jan – Sept 2008)**
 -  **4,124 raids, 2,792,297 infringing goods seized.**
 -  **411 pirated shipment intercepted, 1,186,094 infringing goods seized.**
 -  **Established Committee on Prevention and Suppression of IP Infringement Policy. (Chaired by Prime Minister)**



Progress made to amend and implement IPR laws and regulations:

- Patent, Trademark, and Copyright Acts being amended.
- Acceded to Paris Convention
- Accession to Madrid Protocol by 2015
- Paperless system developed for Trademark registration.

Conform to APEC Transparency Standards





Government Procurement

Core principles followed:

- Value for Money
- open and effective competition,
- Fair dealing
- **Accountability and Due Process**
- **Non-Discrimination**

E-Auction implemented

Regulations concerning countertrade and barter were repealed in early 2007



Mobility of Business People

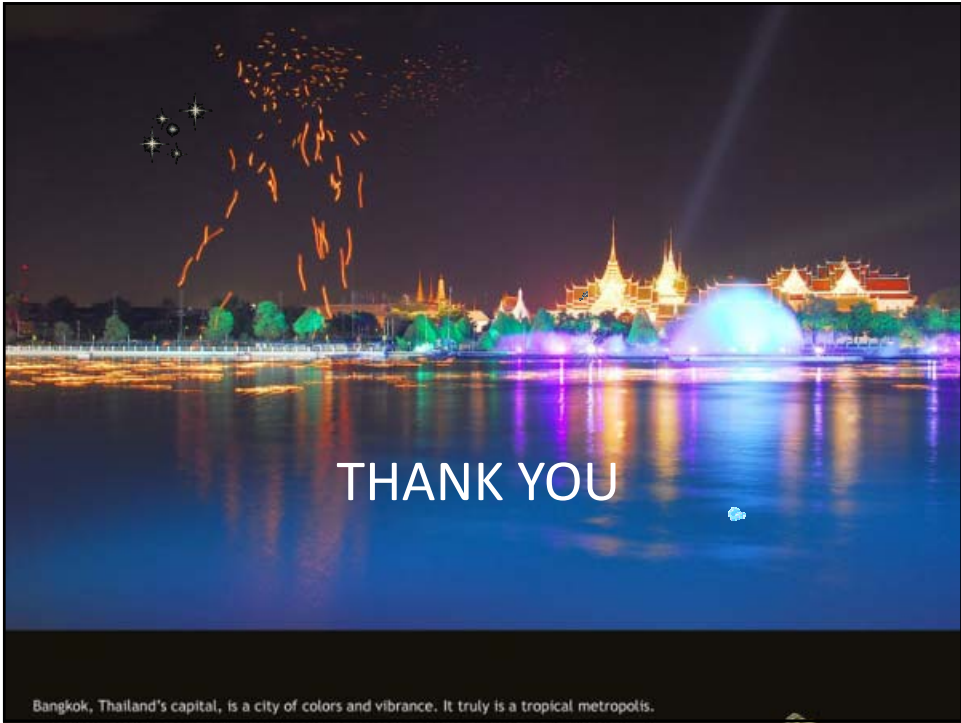
VISA

- Introduced new category of visa for business visitors – multiple-entry up to three years.
- ABTC scheme fully operational.
- Relax requirement for temporary residency for business people.
- One-Stop Service for temporary residence and work permits.
- Information on work permits readily accessible.
- Fast Track Express Lane at Suvarnaphum Airport.



E

- Thailand is making significant progress towards the Bogor Goals.
- Tariff reductions on track
- NTMs being eliminated and in line with WTO
- Financial market access
- Telecom and Energy markets more competitive.
- Favorable investment environment
- Customs procedures more efficient
- Intellectual property law and enforcement effective
- New Government to continue pursuing APEC goals.



Bangkok, Thailand's capital, is a city of colors and vibrance. It truly is a tropical metropolis.