Presentation by Thailand for Individual Action Plan Peer Review

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: APEC Secretariat
The monarchy has given the kingdom golden palaces

2004 Tsunami
Volatile Oil Prices
Political Unrest
Global Financial Crisis
**International Trade 2005–2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Export (Mil $US)</th>
<th>Import (Mil $US)</th>
<th>GDP growth (%)</th>
<th>Top 5 Export</th>
<th>Top 5 Import</th>
<th>Share of APEC Member in Total Export (%)</th>
<th>Share of APEC Member in Total Import (%)</th>
<th>Share of APEC Members in Total FDI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>110,937.7</td>
<td>118,175.2</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>Japan, China, USA, Malaysia, UAE</td>
<td>72.21</td>
<td>68.92</td>
<td>71.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>129,720.4</td>
<td>128,772.3</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>Japan, China, USA, Malaysia, UAE</td>
<td>71.14</td>
<td>67.91 %</td>
<td>68.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>152,095.2</td>
<td>139,958.9</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>Japan, China, USA, Malaysia, UAE</td>
<td>69.26</td>
<td>68.53</td>
<td>56.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>177,841.3</td>
<td>178,653.1</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>USA, Japan, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>Japan, China, USA, UAE, Malaysia</td>
<td>67.85</td>
<td>64.97</td>
<td>56.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.
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
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
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.

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.
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

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, WCO 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
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
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 Suvanaphum Airport.
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.
THANK YOU

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