

Unofficial translation

**Act on the Privileges and Immunities  
of International Organisations and International Conferences in Thailand,  
B.E. 2561 (2018)**

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His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun  
Given on the 18th day of November B.E. 2561 (2018),  
Being the 3rd year of the Present Reign.

His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun is graciously pleased to proclaim that:

Whereas it is expedient to have a law on the privileges and immunities of international organisations and international conferences in Thailand;

Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of the National Legislative Assembly serving as the National Assembly, as follows:

**Section 1.** This Act is called the “Act on the Privileges and Immunities of International Organisations and International Conferences in Thailand, B.E. 2561 (2018)”.

**Section 2.** This Act shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

**Section 3.** In this Act,  
“international organisation” means an intergovernmental organisation and a quasi-governmental organisation;

“intergovernmental organisation” means:

(1) an organisation established by States under international law, whose members are comprised of States;

(2) an entity established by a resolution of a conference between States or by a treaty between States, and which the Royal Thai Government recognises;

(3) other organisation or entity comparable to or emanating from an organisation or entity under (1) or (2), as prescribed in a Royal Decree;

“quasi-governmental organisation” means an organisation whose members are, on the one part, States or intergovernmental organisations, and on the other part, not States nor intergovernmental organisations, and shall include the

International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;

“international cooperation forum” means a cooperation forum whose majority members are States, or a cooperation forum having other characteristics as prescribed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs;

“international conference” means an international conference for the public sector and an international conference for the private sector;

“international conference for the public sector” means a conference organised in Thailand by the Royal Thai Government, a foreign government, an international organisation, or a Thai or foreign state agency, with the objective of allowing representatives of States or representatives of international organisations to participate;

“international conference for the private sector” means a conference organised in Thailand, attended by persons from abroad, but which is not an international conference for the public sector;

“personnel of an international organisation” means:

- (1) representatives of States to an international organisation;
- (2) head of office of an international organisation;
- (3) deputy head of office of an international organisation;
- (4) other officials of an international organisation;
- (5) experts of an international organisation;
- (6) other persons having proof issued by an international organisation stating that they perform missions of the international organisation;

“organiser of an international conference for the public sector” means the Royal Thai Government, a foreign government, an international organisation, or a Thai or foreign state agency which organises an international conference for the public sector.

**Section 4.** The granting of privileges and immunities to an international organisation or an international conference for the public sector shall be to the extent necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfillment of its purposes, taking into consideration Thailand’s obligations under international law, practices of States, and benefits that Thailand will obtain from the international organisation or international conference for the public sector.

**Section 5.** An international organisation may be granted the following privileges and immunities:

- (1) exemption from direct taxes in accordance with the Revenue Code or other laws, for the organisation, its assets, property and income;
- (2) exemption from customs duties and prohibitions or restrictions on imports and exports of articles for the organisation's official use or publications of the organisation;
- (3) inviolability of premises, archives and documents of the organisation;
- (4) censorship of official correspondence and other official communications of the organisation shall not be permitted;
- (5) the right to acquire, receive, hold and transfer any capital or currency, including the exchange of currency by the organisation;
- (6) the right to use codes, including the dispatch and receipt of the organisation's correspondence, with the privileges and immunities not exceeding diplomatic privileges and immunities;
- (7) immunity from legal processes of every kind for the organisation, its assets and property, except in cases of commercial nature;
- (8) immunity from search, requisition, forfeiture, confiscation, seizure, expropriation or any other form of interference in respect of assets or property of the organisation;
- (9) facilitation in respect of official communications of the organisation.

**Section 6.** Personnel of an international organisation may enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

- (1) exemption from personal income tax in accordance with the Revenue Code only in respect of their salaries and remunerations received from the international organisation or their Governments;
- (2) exemption from customs duties in respect of their personal effects imported at the time of taking up their first positions in Thailand;
- (3) exemption from immigration restrictions and alien registration;
- (4) inviolability of residence and documents;
- (5) immunity from personal arrest, detention and seizure of personal effects;
- (6) immunity from legal processes in respect of words spoken or written and all acts done by them in their official capacity;
- (7) immunity from inspection and facilitation in respect of their personal effects not exceeding those granted to diplomatic representatives;
- (8) facilitation in respect of currency exchange, not exceeding those granted to representatives of foreign States;
- (9) repatriation facilitation in time of international crisis, not exceeding those granted to diplomatic representatives.

In the case where the personnel of an international organisation is a Thai national or has permanent residence in Thailand, he or she shall enjoy only the immunity specified in (6) of paragraph one.

**Section 7.** Any privileges and immunities to be granted under Sections 5 and 6, as the case may be, to any international organisation and its personnel shall be as prescribed in a Royal Decree. The privileges and immunities granted to each international organisation may differ, taking into consideration the status and role of the international organisation, and the benefits that Thailand will obtain from the operations of that international organisation. The Royal Decree may also prescribe the conditions under which the privileges and immunities will be granted.

The granting of privileges and immunities under paragraph one is effective only when the international organisation establishes its office or operates in Thailand, or when its personnel perform their functions in Thailand or enter Thailand to perform their functions.

The Royal Decree under paragraph one may prescribe that spouses, children under the age of twenty and household members of the personnel of an international organisation, who have been approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, may be granted any of the privileges and immunities under Section 6.

**Section 8.** An international organisation which has its office in Thailand, or to which Thailand is a party, and for which there is a Royal Decree prescribing its privileges and immunities under Section 7, shall be recognised as a juristic person domiciled in Thailand.

**Section 9.** In the case where Thailand has become a member of any international cooperation forum and it is necessary to grant privileges and immunities to such international cooperation forum, a Royal Decree prescribing privileges and immunities under Sections 5 and 6 may be enacted. The provisions of Sections 4 and 7 shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*.

In the case where an international cooperation forum under paragraph one establishes its office in Thailand and for which there is a Royal Decree prescribing its privileges and immunities under Section 7, the office of such international cooperation forum shall be a juristic person domiciled in Thailand.

**Section 10.** An organiser of an international conference for the public sector may enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

(1) exemption from direct taxes in accordance with the Revenue Code in respect of the income generated from the organisation of such conference in Thailand;

(2) exemption from customs duties and prohibitions or restrictions on imports and exports of articles for the conference's use or conference publications;

(3) inviolability of the premises of the conference and the organiser's property, assets and documents, only to the extent that they are related to the conference.

**Section 11.** Representatives of States or representatives of international organisations participating in an international conference for the public sector may enjoy the privileges and immunities under Section 6.

**Section 12.** Persons invited to participate in an international conference for the public sector, who are not participants of the conference under Section 11, may enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

(1) exemption from personal income tax in accordance with the Revenue Code, only in respect of remunerations received from the organiser of the conference in connection with their participation in the conference;

(2) exemption from the requirement to obtain work permits in accordance with the laws on management of work by aliens, only in respect of work related to the conference;

(3) exemption from immigration restrictions and alien registration;

(4) inviolability of documents relating to the conference;

(5) immunity from legal processes in respect of words spoken or written, and all acts done by them in their official capacity and which are related to the conference;

(6) facilitation in respect of currency exchange, not exceeding those granted to representatives of foreign States.

In the case where the persons invited to participate in an international conference for the public sector are Thai nationals or have permanent residence in Thailand, they may enjoy only the immunity specified in (5) of paragraph one.

**Section 13.** Any privileges and immunities to be granted under Sections 10, 11 and 12, as the case may be, to any organiser and participants of an international conference for the public sector shall be as prescribed in a joint Notification of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Finance to be published in the Government Gazette. The privileges and immunities to be granted to each conference may differ, taking into consideration the benefits that Thailand will obtain from that conference. The Notification may also prescribe the conditions under which the privileges and immunities will be granted;

The Notification under paragraph one may also prescribe that spouses, children and household members of the personnel of the organiser and those of the participants of an international conference for the public sector shall be granted any of the privileges and immunities under Sections 10, 11 and 12, as the case may be.

**Section 14.** Any person wishing to organise an international conference for the private sector and obtain benefits under this Act, shall submit a request to the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (Public Organisation) for its

consideration and recommendation to the Prime Minister concerning the determination of such benefits.

An international conference for the private sector under paragraph one shall have the following characteristics:

(1) having a large number of participants from abroad, which will create economic or tourism benefits, knowledge-dissemination benefits to the general public or other benefits to the country;

(2) the conference and conference activities shall not pose a threat to the national security of Thailand, nor affect the good relations between Thailand and other countries, nor be contrary to the public order or public morals.

The request for obtaining benefits and consideration for granting the benefits under paragraph one shall be in accordance with the criteria, procedures and conditions as prescribed by the Board of Directors of the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau.

Upon receiving the request to organise a conference under paragraph one, the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (Public Organisation) shall expeditiously provide recommendation to the Prime Minister, which shall not exceed fifteen days from the date of receipt of the request.

**Section 15.** An organiser of an international conference for the private sector may enjoy the following benefits:

(1) exemption from the requirement to obtain work permits pursuant to the laws on management of work by aliens, only in respect of work related to the conference;

(2) authorisation for temporary stay in the Kingdom exceeding the time period prescribed in the immigration laws, only for performing functions related to the conference;

(3) immigration facilitation for organisers of the conference who are aliens;

(4) exemption from customs duties and prohibitions or restrictions on imports and exports of articles for the conference's use.

In the case where it is necessary for the organiser of the conference to bring aliens into the Kingdom to perform functions related to the organisation of the conference, such aliens may also enjoy the benefits under paragraph one.

**Section 16.** A participant of an international conference for the private sector may enjoy the following benefits:

(1) reduction of or exemption from personal income tax in accordance with the Revenue Code, only in respect of remunerations that the participants of the conference, who are aliens with no permanent residence in Thailand, receive from the organisers of the conference in connection with their participation, work related to the conference, or being speakers at the conference;

(2) exemption from the requirement to obtain work permits in accordance with the laws on management of work by aliens, only in respect of work related to the conference;

(3) authorisation for temporary stay in the Kingdom exceeding the time period prescribed in the immigration laws, only for the performance of functions related to the conference;

(4) immigration facilitation for participants of the conference who are aliens.

**Section 17.** Any benefits under Sections 15 and 16, as the case may be, to be accorded to organisers and participants of an international conference for the private sector, shall be as prescribed by the Prime Minister in the Government Gazette. The benefits accorded to each conference may differ, taking into consideration the benefits that Thailand will obtain from that conference. The Notification may also prescribe the conditions under which the benefits will be accorded.

**Section 18.** An international organisation, personnel of an international organisation, an international cooperation forum, an organiser of an international conference for the public sector and a participant of an international public sector conference, whose privileges and immunities are granted under this Act, shall have duty to observe and comply with Thai laws, and shall not use privileges and immunities to interfere in Thailand's internal affairs.

**Section 19.** In the case where any international organisation, personnel of an international organisation, an international cooperation forum, an organiser of an international conference for the private sector or a participant of an international conference for the public sector uses privileges or immunities in a wrongful manner or in a manner that affects the national security, or uses immunities to obstruct the administration of justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may recommend the Council of Ministers to suspend or revoke the privileges and immunities granted to that international organisation, personnel of international organisation, international cooperation forum, organiser of an international conference for the private sector or participant of an international conference for the public sector.

**Section 20.** The Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Foreign Affairs shall have charge and control over the execution of this Act.

Countersigned by:  
General Prayut Chan-o-cha  
Prime Minister