



**Remarks**  
**by**  
**His Excellency Ambassador Tanee Sangrat,**  
**On the Occasion of the Presentation of the Letters of Credence**  
**To the Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.,**  
**President of the United States of America**

**Mr. President,**

I have the honor to present to you the Letters of Recall of my predecessor, Mr. Manasvi Srisodapol, and the Letters of Credence by which His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua has graciously appointed me as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United States of America.

I have further the honor to convey to you the best wishes of His Majesty the King of Thailand for your happiness and good health, as well as for the continued success and prosperity of the United States and the American people.

**Mr. President,**

The ties of friendship between the Kingdom of Thailand and the United States of America date back to more than 200 years. Thailand is proud to be the oldest treaty partner and one of the oldest treaty allies of the United States in Asia. Next year will mark the 190<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our diplomatic relations that commenced with the signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce in March 1833. Our alliance under the 1954 Manila Pact, subsequently reinforced by the 1962 Thanat-Rusk Communiqué, has been underpinned by our shared values of freedom, sovereignty and independence and is now in its 7<sup>th</sup> decade.

As His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the United States has been and will always remain a special place for the Thai people. His Majesty's reign had cemented the solid bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. This legacy is being carried forward under the reign of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua, and our relations continue to grow closer and prosper.

Today, our partnership is strategic and multifaceted. Your administration, Mr. President, has contributed tremendously to the strengthening of our bilateral ties, including through increasing exchange of high-level visits. The Prime Minister of Thailand's visit to the White House, along with other ASEAN leaders, in May 2022 was historic and paved the way toward the comprehensive strategic partnership between the United States and ASEAN. In July 2022, our two countries signed the Thailand-United States Communiqué on Strategic Alliance and Partnership during Secretary Antony Blinken's visit to Bangkok. This reaffirmed our commitment to further advance the Thailand-United States relations and cooperation as we

prepare to tackle future challenges together for peace and prosperity of our two countries and beyond. Most recently, the visit to Thailand and participation at the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting by Vice President Kamala Harris in November added to this positive momentum and reaffirmed our commitment to advancing our cooperation in all dimensions. The Kingdom of Thailand very much looks forward to welcoming you, Mr. President, in the near future. Your landmark visit to Thailand would undoubtedly highlight our long-standing alliance and elevate it to a higher plane.

**Mr. President,**

The robust Thailand – United States security alliance serves as the cornerstone of not only our bilateral relations, but also peace and stability in the region. The annual Cobra Gold military exercise, which enters into its 40<sup>th</sup> year, has long graduated from a bilateral military drill into the largest multinational military exercise in the region involving almost thirty countries. The exercise undoubtedly helps enhance military coordination, cooperation and interoperability across the armed forces of the participating countries.

However, the new wave of fundamental change and upheaval in international order that we are witnessing today reminds us that the alliance, too, needs to be upgraded to keep abreast of the changing times. Therefore, it is my intention to further strengthen our defense cooperation through education and training, military personnel exchanges, capacity-building, interoperability, and defense modernization. Thailand also appreciates the United States' active cooperation on the development of defense industry in Thailand, which would help sustain Thailand's future defense capability amidst today's fast-changing security environment.

Our wide-ranging security partnership also spans non-traditional security cooperation to address common challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of our decades-old cooperation between the Ministry of Public Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control on medical researches and public health. This strong foundation has helped to mitigate the impact of the pandemic from the beginning. Thailand recognizes the important role played by the United States to promote global health security and is committed to be a strong partner in these efforts. Our joint collaboration through the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) in Bangkok has also been the crown jewel of the United States' military medicine worldwide. Furthermore, the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok has trained over 20,000 law enforcement officials across the Indo-Pacific and serves as a concrete example of how our bilateral partnership can help enhance law enforcement cooperation and the rule of law throughout the region. As Ambassador of Thailand to the United States, I intend to help strengthen our traditional and non-traditional security cooperation to ensure that our alliance is well-equipped for today's fast-changing security environment.

**Mr. President,**

Our economic relations have also been equally rewarding. Last year, the United States was Thailand's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest trading partner. The United States also remained among the Kingdom's top investors and is the only country in the world whose investors have enjoyed the unique privilege of national treatment in Thailand under the 1966 Treaty of Amity and Economic Relations. Today, a large number of American companies have strong presence in Thailand, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest economy in ASEAN, and are taking advantage of Thailand's strategic location as a hub for the fast-growing ASEAN market of more than 650 million people, including a Mekong subregion of over 200 million people.

At the same time, investment from Thailand into the United States has increased significantly and now totals around 7 billion U.S. dollars, covering more than twenty states, and contributing to more than 70,000 jobs in the United States. This upward trend is expected to rise even further with leading Thai conglomerates planning to expand their businesses or invest in the United States.

In keeping up with the ever changing economic and technological landscape, I intend to work with partners across the United States to promote closer collaboration in science, technology and innovation to bring out the best synergies for our mutual prosperity in the increasingly digitized and interconnected world. I also intend to promote cooperation between our start-ups and young entrepreneurs not only to create further economic growth but also to help tackle global issues such as healthcare and food insecurity.

Guided by the Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy devised by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great, Thailand is a great believer in sustainable development and has made Bio-Circular-Green economic model our national agenda. In this regard, I look forward to working with your government and American partners to promote clean and renewable energy, as well as to seek technological solutions for climate change in order to achieve Thailand's carbon-neutrality and net-zero emission goals by 2050 and 2065, respectively.

**Mr. President,**

Thailand has always welcomed the United States' constructive and stabilizing role in the Indo-Pacific region. Thailand appreciates your firm support of ASEAN centrality and the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and seeks to promote closer strategic partnership between ASEAN and the United States in all areas of common interest. We are further encouraged by the United States' decision to become a development partner of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) and the recent establishment of the Mekong-United States Partnership (MUSP) to support development of infrastructure connectivity in the subregion.

**Mr. President,**

I believe that the future of our enduring alliance and partnership rests upon a strong foundation of goodwill and understanding between our peoples. Over a million Americans visited Thailand each year before the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of them have chosen Thailand as their second home. In the United States, over 400,000 Thais and Thai-Americans are studying, working and pursuing the American dreams and contributing to the rich tapestry of the American communities in all 50 states. I, myself, have been fortunate to call the United States my second home during my previous assignments in Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. It is therefore my intention to continue to nurture this goodwill at the people-to-people level, thus ensuring that the friendship between our two countries will continue to be cherished by future generations.

**Mr. President,**

It is my highest honor to serve as the 48<sup>th</sup> Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to your great nation. I wish to assure you that I will do my best to further advance the close ties of friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples. I look forward to your kind support and to working closely with your Administration towards that end.