IMMEDIATE

No. 0404/C.770



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the all Diplomatic Missions, Consular Representatives and International Organisations (DCIOs) in Thailand and, further to the Ministry's Note No. 0404/749 dated 19 March 2020 seeking the DCIOs's cooperation to refrain from organising or attending large scale events to mitigate the local transmission of the COVID-19 virus, has the honour to inform the DCIOs that, in conformity with the Royal Thai Government's precautionary measures, the Department of Protocol has instructed most of its staff to temporarily work from home on rotating basis starting from 20 March 2020 and thus; has adjusted its operations concerning privilege and immunity matters as follows:

- 1. The revised operation hours of the Privilege and Immunity Division's Document Distribution Counter will be on every Wednesday from 10.00 12.00 hrs.
- 2. All routine services, except formalities for the Extension of Permit of Stay and Customs Clearance of Imported Goods, will be processed weekly. Therefore, the Ministry advised all DCIOs to kindly monitor issues that require an urgent approval from Thai authorities concerned, particularly the request for an Extension of Permit of Stay, and submit relevant document to the Division of Privilege and Immunity at their earliest opportunity.
- 3. For <u>essential enquiries</u> on privilege and immunity issues, the DCIOS can contact the Privilege and Immunity Division's Hotline Number at 092 223 0433 from Monday to Friday between 10.00-1200 hrs. The DCIOs are encouraged to lodge other general enquiries at the Division's email: protocol03@mfa.mail.go.th.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions, Consular Representatives and International Organisations (DCIOs) in Thailand the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Bangkok.

23 March B.E. 2563 (2020)