(unofficial translation)

PROTECTION OF THE OPERATION OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN THAILAND ACT, B.E. 2562 (2019)

HIS MAJESTY MAHA VAJIRALONGKORN BODINDRADEBAYAVARANGKUN; Given on the 17th Day of February B.E. 2562; Being the 4th 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 protection of the operation of the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Thailand;

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

Section 1. This Act is called the "Protection of the Operation of the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Thailand Act, B.E. 2562 (2019)".

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:

"Office" means the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Thailand established by the Agreement made by the exchange of notes between the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the People's Republic of China which composed of the note of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Thailand No. TCE/PU 446 (18) dated 5 September 2018 provisions on privileges and immunities in facilitating the operation of the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Bangkok, Thailand; and the Annex on additional facilities, privileges and immunities annexed to the said note; and the note informed the confirmation from the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Section 4. In the interests of protecting the operation of the Office in Thailand to ensure the achievement of its purposes:

(1) the Office shall be recognised as a juristic person and be deemed to have a domicile in Thailand;

(2) the Office, premises, assets, and official archives of the Office including members of the staff of the Office shall be accorded the privileges and immunities as set

forth in the exchanged notes between the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the People's Republic of China which composed of the note of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Thailand No. TCE/PU 446 (18) dated 5 September 2018 including provisions on privileges and immunities in facilitating the operation of the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Bangkok, Thailand; and the Annex on additional facilities, privileges and immunities annexed to the said note; and the note informed the confirmation from the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand.

The term members of the staff of the Office in this section means personnel assigned by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to exercise the functions of the Office, including the Head of the Office but excluding locally recruited personnel and Thai nationals

Section 5. The Minister of Foreign Affairs shall have charge and control of the execution of this Act.

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

DISCLAIMER: The reason to enact this Act is that the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the People's Republic of China negotiated to exchange notes which composed of the note of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Thailand No. TCE/PU 446 (18) dated 5 September 2018 including provisions on privileges and immunities in facilitating the operation of the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Bangkok, Thailand; and the annex on additional facilities, privileges and immunities annexed to the said note; and the note informed the confirmation from the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, mutually agreed to established the Hong Kong Trade and Economic Office in Thailand to perform functions in order to strengthen and promote cooperation between Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand. The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Thailand shall be recognised as a juristic person and the office and officials of the office shall be accorded the privileges and immunities including the facilitating for the operation in Thailand. Therefore, it is necessary to enact this Act.