

(unofficial translation)

PROTECTION OF THE OPERATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
NATIONS B.E. 2551 (2008)

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BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX;

Given on the 14<sup>th</sup> Day of November B.E. 2551; Being the 63<sup>rd</sup> Year of the Present Reign.

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim that:

Whereas it is expedient to have a law on the protection of the operation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of the Parliament as follows:

Section 1. This Act is called “Protection of the Operation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Act, B.E. 2551 (2008)”.

Section 2.<sup>2</sup> 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:

“Charter” means the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations which the Royal Thai Government signed on 20 November B.E. 2550;

“ASEAN” means the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Section 4. ASEAN, which is an inter-governmental organisation, shall be recognised as a juristic person and be deemed to have a domicile in Thailand.

Section 5. In the interests of protecting the operation in Thailand of ASEAN to ensure the achievement of its purposes in accordance with the Charter,

(1) ASEAN shall be accorded immunities and privileges in Thailand as are necessary for the achievement of its purposes in accordance with the Charter;

(2) The Secretary-General of ASEAN and staff members of the ASEAN Secretariat participating in official activities of ASEAN or acting on behalf of ASEAN in Thailand shall be accorded immunities and privileges as are necessary for the independent performing of their functions in accordance with the Charter;

( 3 ) Permanent Representatives and delegates of ASEAN Member States participating in official activities of ASEAN or acting on behalf of ASEAN in Thailand shall

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<sup>2</sup> Published in the Government Gazette, Vol. 125, Part 121 a, Page 1, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November B.E. 2551

be accorded immunities and privileges as are necessary for the performing of their functions in accordance with the Charter or in line with laws on privileges and diplomatic immunities.

Section 6. The Minister of Foreign Affairs shall be in charge of the enforcement of this Act.

Countersigned by:

Somchai Wongsawat

Prime Minister

DISCLAIMER: The reason to enact this Act is that the Royal Thai Government signed the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on 20 November B.E. 2550 and the Charter stipulates that Member States shall accord immunities and privileges as are necessary for the performing of functions to ASEAN, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, staff members of the ASEAN Secretariat, Permanent Representatives to ASEAN and delegates of ASEAN Member States. To protect the operation of ASEAN in Thailand, it is therefore necessary to enact this Act.