

## **Thai National Day 2020: Message from Chargé d’Affaires**

Excellencies, dear colleagues, and friends,

5th of December is an auspicious day for Thailand and Thais all over the world as it marks 3 important occasions, namely our National day, Father’s Day, and the Birthday Anniversary of His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great.

It has long been customary for Thai embassies to hold receptions to mark the aforesaid occasions on this day where we are proud to offer delectable Thai food and cultural activities. However, we have been living in exceptional circumstances due to the spread of COVID-19, which has disrupted our old way of doing things.

Although Malaysia and Thailand have been spared from a full-blown pandemic due to each government’s prompt response and our capable health personnel, especially those heroic frontliners, we should not be complacent and let our guard down. As a result, our celebration this year will shift to online platforms to ensure that you will still have a festive celebration. In this regard, I have the great pleasure to invite you to visit <https://kualalumpur.thaiembassy.org/> for an experience brought to you right from Thailand. More activities in December are being prepared and you will be informed of the details at the earliest.

Thailand and Malaysia have enjoyed a close and cordial relationship since the establishment of our diplomatic relations 63 years ago. Even during COVID-19 pandemic the two countries have been working together to bring their citizens back to their respective countries. The Embassy wishes to, once again, reiterate our gratitude for the cooperation we have received from our Malaysian friends thus far.

I also would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Malaysia as Chair of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) this year and on the success of the First Virtual APEC 2020 Leaders’ Meeting on the 20th of November 2020. As the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economies in ASEAN, Thailand and Malaysia have an important role in further deepening the connectivity within the region as well as between the region and the world, to ensure seamless flow of people, goods and services, and investments across the borders.

On the final note, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Malaysian Government for the warm and cordial relations we have enjoyed and for the warm hospitality extended to the Embassy and Thai people in Malaysia.

I wish you all happiness and good health.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rutch Soratana". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue ink color.

Rutch Soratana  
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.