

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE OMBUDSMAN OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND
AND
THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND
COMMUNICATIONS OF JAPAN**

The Ombudsman of the Kingdom of Thailand and The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "two sides" and individually as "side");

DESIRING to strengthen friendly and collaborative relations between the two sides in the field of Ombudsmanship, and contribute to the development of their capacity for handling complaints;

SEEKING to collaborate in areas of common interest to promote the rights of their nationals and enhance good governance;

ACTING in accordance with the prevailing laws and regulations of their respective countries;

Have reached the following recognition:

**PARAGRAPH 1
OBJECTIVES**

- (1) To affirm a determination to promote cooperation between the two sides in the field of Ombudsmanship, handling complaints and other duties pertaining to tasks and purposes of each side;
- (2) To establish and strengthen cooperation between the two sides in order to improve their capacity for handling complaint, contributing to the enhancement of good governance;
- (3) To exchange experiences so that the two sides may learn strong points of each other;
- (4) To collaborate in areas of common interest.

**PARAGRAPH 2
AREAS OF COOPERATION**

- (1) The areas of cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "Memorandum") include:
 - a. Sharing and exchanging practices, complaint-related policies and experiences, as well as human resources;
 - b. Organizing bilateral workshops or seminars; and
 - c. Collaborating in other areas which are jointly decided by the two sides.
- (2) The two sides will actively promote the developments and achievements of collaborative activities under this Memorandum when they are pursuing cooperation with international Ombudsman bodies, academic institutions and private organizations;
- (3) The two sides will organize scientific research activities concerning the study of international experience and the particularities of the activity of the Ombudsman institute in interaction with governmental and administrating authorities as well as civil society and mass media;
- (4) The two sides will hold mutual events on the platforms of the International Ombudsman Institute, Asian Ombudsman Association and other organizations; and
- (5) The two sides will realize joint projects and programs, and arrange visits and internships of representatives of the two sides within frameworks on exchanging of experiences and providing practical assistance in the field of Ombudsmanship, handling complaints and other duties pertaining to tasks and purposes of each side, and thus contribute to the enhancement of good governance.

**PARAGRAPH 3
IMPLEMENTATION**

- (1) Activities described in this Memorandum will be implemented through the development of specific plans, programs, or projects between the two sides. Such plans, programs and projects will specify the objectives, financial plans, and other details relating to specific commitments of the two sides;
- (2) The two sides or their authorized representatives will provisionally hold meetings in order to evaluate the implementation of this Memorandum and to define new directions of cooperation as deemed necessary;

- (3) Correspondence and provision of information will be carried out in English; and
- (4) The two sides respectively designate a representative as the Contact Persons as follows:

For the Ombudsman of the Kingdom of Thailand, the Contact Person will be the Director of International Affairs Bureau of the Office of the Ombudsman.

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, the Contact Person will be the Director of the Administrative Counseling Division of the Administrative Evaluation Bureau.

PARAGRAPH 4 EXPENSES

- (1) The two sides will fund the joint activity in accordance with this Memorandum on the terms of mutual consent in each specific case.
- (2) The side that sends the delegation will bear its own expenses for international travel, accommodation and meals necessitated by the exchange; the other side that receives the delegation will bear the expenses for any domestic travel due to participation in the exchange program and other items deemed appropriate by the two sides; further details regarding expenses will be decided between the two sides on a case-by-case basis.
- (3) All cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of funds of the two sides.

PARAGRAPH 5 GENERAL MATTERS

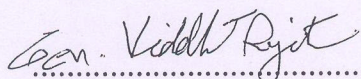
- (1) This Memorandum is not an international agreement and does not create any legally binding rights and obligations.
- (2) The two sides will not transmit information obtained from the other side under this Memorandum to a third party without the other side having earlier provided written notification to do so.
- (3) Any disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Memorandum will be settled through negotiations and consultations between the two sides.

PARAGRAPH 6 OTHERS

- (1) Cooperation under this Memorandum will commence on the date of its signature.
- (2) Cooperation under this Memorandum will continue for three (3) years and will be automatically extended for the successive periods of three (3) years.
- (3) Either side may terminate the cooperation under this Memorandum at any time by informing the other side in writing, expressing its intention to terminate this Memorandum. Cooperation under this Memorandum will be terminated six (6) months after the receipt of such notification.
- (4) This Memorandum may be modified by mutual written notification of the two sides.

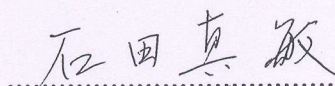
Signed in two original copies both in English,
in Tokyo, Japan, on 13 November 2018.

**FOR THE OMBUDSMAN OF
THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND**



**General (Ret.) Viddhavat Rajatanun
Ombudsman for Chief Ombudsman
Ombudsman of the Kingdom of
Thailand**

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL
AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS
OF JAPAN**



**Mr. Masatoshi Ishida
Minister
Ministry of Internal Affairs
and Communications of Japan**