

CHANDLER & THONG-EK LAW OFFICES LTD.

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**Legislation Progress**

1. A list of double tax treaties as of 31 May 2008 which Thailand has concluded with 52 countries is available in both English and Thai at the Library.

**The following important legislation was published in the Government Gazette:**

**Commerce, Customs, Duty and Tax**

1. Notification of the Ministry of Commerce re operator of commercial business to apply for commercial registration (No.10), B.E. 2551. (2802)
2. Notification of the Revenue Department re evidence of deduction of allowances for interest on loan. (0104)
3. Notification of the Excise Department re bases, procedures and conditions respecting exemption of tax on hydrocarbon solvent used in various industries (No.3). (0404)

**Energy**

1. Notification of the Department of Energy Business re condition on distribution of liquefied petroleum gas out of the Kingdom B.E. 2551 (1403)
2. Notification of Department of Energy Business re prescription of descriptions and qualities of gasoline B.E. 2548. (2105)

**Industry and Investment**

1. Notification of the Office of Board of Investment No. Por.2/2550 re revision of conditions on industrial zone business. (1503)
2. Notification of Industrial Works Department re categories or types of factories which are required to prepare report of types and quantities of pollutant released from factory B.E. 2551. (2005)

## **Labor and Land**

1. Notification of the Ministry of Interior re collection of fees for registration of rights and juristic acts under Land Code in case of support of sale of immovable property according to bases prescribed by the Cabinet. (2803, 0205)
2. Notification of the Ministry of Interior re collection of fees for registration of rights and juristic acts under law governing condominium building in case of support of sale of immovable property according to bases prescribed by the Cabinet. (2803)
3. Notification of the Ministry of Interior re collection of fees for registration of rights and juristic acts under Land Code in case of support of sale of immovable property of office building category according to bases prescribed by the Cabinet. (2803)
4. Ministerial regulations fixing rates of medical expenses to be paid by Employer (1305)

## **Summary of laws and general matters approved by the resolutions of the Cabinet during May 2008**

1. Approved the draft of the strategy of provincial development as proposed by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board. (0605)
2. Approved the Memorandum of Understanding made between the Kingdom of Thailand and Union of Myanmar for developing the Tawai Seaport. (0605)
3. Approved the draft agreement made between the Kingdom of Thailand and Republic of Palau (the country in the Pacific Ocean, east of Republic of the Philippines) for exemption of visa endorsement of diplomatic and government official passports. (0605)
4. Approved the revision of salary of the government officials who receive the allowance by increasing from Baht 7,700 to Baht 8,200 for the minimum rate and from Baht 11,000 to Baht 11,700 for the maximum rate to be effective from 1 May 2008. (1305)
5. Acknowledged the signing on the financial cooperation agreement between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of Japan which includes a loan contract and guarantee for Bangyai-Bangsue Purple Train Line Project, Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand. (1305)
6. Approved Mr. Krisorn Pornsuthee, Deputy Secretary General of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity to apply for re-election in the same position of APT on behalf of Thailand. (1305)
7. Approved the Anti-Money Laundering Office to pay the membership fee to Egmont Group. The Egmont Group is a group of Financial Intelligence Units from 106 countries, with an objective to exchange information on money laundering and terrorism financing. (1305)
8. Approved the establishment of Consular Office of Republic of Poland in Phuket covering consular areas of 13 provinces: Chumphon, Ranong, Phangnga, Surat Thani,

- Nakhon Si Thammarat, Krabi, Phatthalung, Trang, Songkhla, Pattani, Satun, Yala and Narathivas. (1305)
9. Approved the announcement proposed by the Employment Committee on minimum wage rates dated May 16, 2008 and effective on June 1, 2008. The minimum daily wage is Baht 203 in the area of Bangkok, Nakhonpathom, Nonthaburi, Patum Thani, Samut Prakarn and Samut Sakorn, etc. (2005)
  10. Approved the agreement between the Government of Thailand and the International Telecommunication Union for the Telecom Asia 2008 exhibition and event. (2005)
  11. Approved the memorandum of understanding for the Dubai World Company of the United Arab Emirates donation for the study of a deep seaport development and bridge construction on the Andaman Sea to link a bridge in the Gulf of Thailand. (2005)
  12. Approved the Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand to go ahead with the Blue Line Railway project, Hualumphong-Bangcare and Bangsue-Thaphra. The budget for civil work is baht 48,821 million. (2705)
  13. Approved the agreement on an ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP). The agreement will cover free trade, services, investment, rules and regulations such as the rule of the origin of goods, health regulations, and cooperation in 14 different areas. (2705)
  14. Acknowledged the minutes of the economic council ministers' meeting: (2705)
    - 14.1 The Ministry of Transportation is considering the change of 6,000 mass transit buses to be NGV buses which will be offered on every route and will provide special fare to students, the elderly and low income people.
    - 14.2 The Ministry of Energy and PTT Public Co., Ltd. to have 42,750 NGV taxis by the end of this year; and to expand the number of NGV service stations as planned in July 2008 to not less than 260 stations. The Ministry of Energy extends the period for another 3 years for tax deductions, excise tax, income tax for engine parts, engine equipment, engines and motor engines.
    - 14.3 The Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Energy and Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative to jointly establish the plan to promote the production of E85, reduce taxes on E85 and promote raw materials to produce ethanol and the expansion of service stations.
    - 14.4 The Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labor to scrutinize businesses for tax cuts for expenses on skilled labor training.
    - 14.5 The Ministry of Industry and the Board of Investment to build the trust and confidence of foreign investors and support activities for the investment year policy, and The Ministry of Finance to consider a law on long-term foreign land lease.