



Thailand reaffirms its commitment to working with the United Nations and all stakeholders in improving human rights, and it could be a model for other countries to promote the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Upon the invitation extended by the Thai government, the United Nations Working Group on the issues of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises is paying an official visit to Thailand from 26 March to 4 April 2018.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, during its visit to Thailand, the Working Group will meet members of relevant government agencies, the private sector, and civil society organizations - both in and outside Bangkok. The invitation reflects the commitment and readiness of all stakeholders in Thailand to continue to improve the human rights work, including in the field of business and human rights.

The Working Groups visit is thus viewed as part of a collaborative learning process, where Thailand would be able to learn from the Working Group. Suggestions made by the Working Group will be useful for Thailand to further promote the business and human rights work in Thailand.

As a Member State of the United Nations and party to various international human rights treaties, Thailand attaches importance to human rights work. It is among the first countries in the region having started the drafting process of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.

The Thai government on 12 February 2018 announced human rights as an element of Thailand's national agenda, after the Cabinet on 21 November 2017 passed a resolution approving and announcing the "National Agenda: Human Rights as a Driving Force of Thailand 4.0 towards Sustainable Development.

Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha said that business and human rights are among the policies to which the Thai government attaches great importance. This is because Thailand believes that the business sector holds the key to boosting the country's economic growth, especially through conducting

business operations in light of social responsibility, respect for human rights, context-specific norms, righteousness, and moral values.