

## **International Thai Foundation (“ITF”)**

### **COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (“COE”) 2018**

#### PERIOD

This Report covers the ITF's activities from January 2016 to December 2017.

#### STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM MS THANYAPHAT CHOKSIRITHANANON

ITF is fully supportive of the UN's Global Compact and its ongoing initiative. Our strategies and activities are based on the universal principles regarding human rights, environment, labor and anti-corruption. An acceptance of our common responsibilities, duties and obligations can underpin a commitment for societal & business focused solutions to realize sustainability for local, regional & international development.

#### MISSION

ITF's mission is to empower individuals & entities towards consistent & equal legal, Human Rights & civil liberties protection; collaboration; transparency; and capacity-building.

The ITF endeavours to encourage recognition, involvement and engagement throughout the Thai, ASEAN and international law sector. This includes advice, training, assistance & dialogue to address challenges throughout the profession, with the recipients and throughout society as a whole. We collaborate with a range of stakeholders & interested parties to share information & resources and promote best practice on responsible advocates, practitioners, legal officials & businesses.

#### ACTIVITY 1: NETWORKING ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

##### 2016

- The ITF was involved in a number of partnership projects encouraging corporate sustainability around different themes.
- February to April 2016 the ITF hosted Network events in Thailand with local, regional & international stakeholders interested or involved in the UNGC Local Network in Thailand & South East Asia.
- 71 participants attended including local Thai lawyers, government officials, Thai business representatives and employees.
- Outcome regarding the UNGC 10 Principles regarding Human Rights & Labor:
  - further awareness & familiarity of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles & Rights at Work;
  - debate about the benefit of an active regional & global network;
  - general disillusionment on the slow progress & limited impact of the UNGC in Thailand.

##### 2017

- 10<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017 the ITF hosted Network events in Hat Yai, Songkla to establish the objectives of the local Southern Provincial interest of stakeholders regarding their ongoing and future involvement in the UNGC Local Network.
- 37 participants attended including local Thai lawyers, government officials, Thai business representatives and employees.
- Outcome regarding the UNGC 10 Principles regarding Sustainability & Anti-Corruption:
  - awareness & familiarity of the UN Convention Against Corruption;
  - discussion on the benefit of an active global network;
  - concern about the lack of actual impact.

## ACTIVITY 2: WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

- 2016-2017 the ITF presented 11 workshops to inform potential stakeholders & interested parties relating to Thai & ASEAN labor practices, human trafficking, sex working, bribery & holistic practices.
- Outcome: outreach & awareness raising to groups of 118 people.
- Satisfactory conclusion with positive feedback.

## ACTIVITY 3: RESEARCH / ARTICLES

- Case Comment: *R (Hysaj & Ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2017] UKSC 82, Part Two*
- Case Comment: *R (Hysaj & Ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2017] UKSC 82, Part One*
- Case Preview: *R (Tag Eldin Ramadan Bashir & Ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Anor Part Two*
- Case Preview: *R (Tag Eldin Ramadan Bashir & Ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Anor Part One*
- Case Comment: *R (HC) v Secretary of State for Works and Pensions & Ors [2017] UKSC 73 Part Three*
- Case Comment: *R (HC) v Secretary of State for Works and Pensions & Ors [2017] UKSC 73 Part Two*
- Case Comment: *R (HC) v Secretary of State for Works and Pensions & Ors [2017] UKSC 73 Part One*
- Case Preview: *R (B) v Secretary of State for the Home Department Part Two*
- Case Preview: *R (B) v Secretary of State for the Home Department Part One*
- Case Comment: *Sadovska & Anor v Secretary of State for the Home Department (Scotland) [2017] UKSC 54*

## ACTIVITY 4: EXPERTISE DEVELOPMENT

- None

## ACTIVITY 5: STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE & CSR NETWORK

- 2017 the ITF conducted 2 meetings regarding the Stakeholder Committee consisting of 110 & 12 members from interested parties of the following industries
  - legal & judicial, IT, education, training, pharmaceutical, energy, agriculture & textiles, banking, insurance & finance, travel & tourism, retail, fishing, and commerce & business.
- The Agendas focused on Human Rights, Civil Liberties, Sustainability, Labor Rights & Corruption.
- Outcome: recognition of the UNGC 10 Principles and a commitment to their acknowledgement and practical implementation in business ethos, decisions, methods and objectives.

## ACTIVITY 6: ENGAGEMENT WITHIN THE LOCAL NETWORK

- There has been limited engagement with Global Compact Local Networks.
- Participation in GC global events.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. The ITF further developed support for the development of an active CSR Network in Thailand.
2. Limited but tangible realisation of the gap currently evident in the existing system. However small steps achieved towards cooperation with the existing stakeholders & interested parties in Thailand towards an active & vibrant CSR Network.
3. Mapping of CSR entities in Thailand.
4. Thai government & ASEAN support for ITF's activities in alignment with the UNGC principles.

The ITF remains committed towards the UNGC 10 Principles & international instruments. More work is required but our entity will continue towards the ultimate objective.

**Pornrat Kaewmune**  
ITF Chair Trustee

**John Lewis**  
Company Secretary  
Dated: 29.01.2018