



## Sourcing from Thailand: How to Limit Risks While Promoting Opportunities

### Overview

Doing business with Thailand is currently put to a big test: continuous allegations of inadequate labour conditions, the EU investigation on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and the deadlock of negotiations for an EU-Thailand free trade agreement.

The panelists looked at what are the future prospects for sourcing and doing business in Thailand.

### Speakers:

Moderator: **Pierre Gröning**, Head of International Trade Policy – Foreign Trade Association

- **Anisha Rajapakse**, Senior Manager for Stakeholder Engagement – Foreign Trade Association
- **Duangarhit Nidhi-u-tai**, Head of Commercial Affairs – Royal Thai Embassy, Brussels, Belgium

### Session Highlights

- There has been continuous dialogue and a strong commitment by Thailand to improve the sustainability situation in its fisheries industries
- FTA and ILO held an event in Bangkok to discuss improving labour practices, including migration management, as Thailand endeavours to combat unacceptable forms of work in the Thai food and fisheries supply chain.
- Focus was also put on enhancing the role of buyers in promoting decent work and complying with international labour standards in supply chains in Thailand.

### Quotes

- The Thai government has worked very actively to address irregularities in its fisheries sectors, but challenges remain and working together in order to tackle them is key – Duangarhit Nidhi-u-tai

- Ongoing dialogue between businesses, the Thai government and NGOs is the best way to improve the situation and reduce risks – Anisha Rajapakse