

No. 52101/ 910



PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND  
5, Rue Gustave-Moynier  
1202 GENEVA

17 November B.E. 2559 (2016)

Dear Sirs and Madams,

With reference to your joint letter ref. AL THA 7/2016 dated 16 November 2016 on the information concerning the sentence issued against Mr. Andy Hall, as well as two migrant workers facing theft charges, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] I wish to inform you that the Permanent Mission of Thailand has already forwarded your letter to the Thai authorities concerned for their consideration and will send you further information as soon as it is received.

In the meantime, I wish to note that the Supreme Court of Thailand's decision on 3 November 2016, which upheld the decisions made by the Court of First Instance and the Court of Appeal to dismiss criminal defamation case against Mr. Andy Hall filed by Natural Fruit Company Limited regarding his interview with Al Jazeera, shows that the court rulings were objectively based on the factual inputs and evidence of the case. This is also a clear reflection of the integrity, independence, neutrality and transparency of the Thai judicial system. The Royal Thai Government is well aware that it is the authority's duty to ensure that human rights defenders and human rights lawyers can carry out their work in a safe and enabling environment. Our Ministry of Justice is preparing a mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders and a guideline for all parties, particularly law enforcement agencies, is currently being developed.

/I also wish...

Mr. Pavel Sulyandziga,

Chairperson of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises;

Mr. David Kaye,

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

Mr. Michel Forst,

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders;

Mr. François Crépeau,

Special Rapporteur on the on the human rights of migrants;

Ms. Urmila Bhoola,

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences;

Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro,

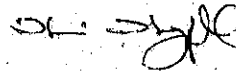
Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,

GENEVA.

I also wish to reiterate that the Royal Thai Government spares no effort to promote and protect the rights of all migrant workers in Thailand. We have implemented various regularization schemes with systematic registration of undocumented migrant workers and their dependents to ensure that they are protected and provided with welfare under Thai law. Furthermore, the Royal Thai Government supports the adoption of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPR) and is in the process of developing a national action plan on business and human rights in order to enhance the effectiveness in implementing the UNGPR.

In reassuring you of Thailand's continued commitment to cooperating with all Special Procedures under the Human Rights Council to promote and protect the human rights, I remain,

Yours sincerely,



(Thani Thongphakdi)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative