No. 61001/ 99

Royal Thai Embassy
Helsinki

The Royal Thai Embassy presents its compliments to the Employment and Equality Committee of the Finnish Parliament Committee Office and, with reference to the Employment and Equality Committee of the Finnish Parliament Committee Office's E-mail dated 14 April 2021 requesting the Thai authority's written statement regarding **the draft Act on the Legal Status of Foreigners Harvesting Natural Products (HE 42/2021 vp)**, has the honour to inform the latter that the Embassy has received the comments on the aforementioned draft from the Thai side as follows:

1. The modified draft Act on the Legal Status of Foreigners Harvesting Natural Products (HE 42/2021 vp) provides more clarity on the importance of protecting the Thai workers' rights. After the Act comes into force and it can solve problems that have occurred previously for the sake of Thai workers in the long term, the Thai authority will probably consider increasing the quota of the Thai workers traveling to pick wild berries in Finland in the future.

2. However, the effective date of the draft Act has not yet been specified and the serious outbreak of the COVID-19 continues to spread. The Thai authority, therefore, has decided to keep on applying the **Travel Measures for Thai Workers to Pick Wild Berries in Finland, Season 2021** as the last season.

3. In the Article 6.1 "The answers received to the request for statement", the Thai authority wishes to change the words "the Royal Thai Embassy" and "the Ministry of Foreign Affairs" to "the Thai side" instead.

The Royal Thai Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Employment and Equality Committee of the Finnish Parliament Committee Office the assurances of its highest consideration.

สถานเอกอัครราชทูต ณ กรุงเฮลซิงกิ
ROYAL THAI EMBASSY HELSINKI

Royal Thai Embassy,
Helsinki.
3 May B.E. 2564 (2021)

The Employment and Equality Committee of the Finnish Parliament Committee Office,

HELSINKI.

CC: The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of the Republic of Finland