

41st Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee and 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council

(Bangkok, Thailand, May 27-30, 2024)

Bangkok Statement

"Food Security and Tourism Promotion"

We, the representatives of (22) political parties and (38) business entities, from Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Georgia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Laos, Lebanon, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye and Vietnam, gathered on May 28, 2024 in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand for the 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council, under the main theme of "Food Security and Tourism Promotion."

We expressed our concern about the fragile state of food and tourism industries, which were yet to fully recover from the impact of the covid-19 pandemic, and were also adversely affected by newly emerging economic and geopolitical challenges around the world, which had not only disrupted the global supply chain of food product but also hindered freer movement of people and freight.

We noted, in particular, the two reports recently issued by the World Food Program (WFP) and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). According to the Global Report on Food Crises 2023 by the WFP, many more people were suffering from high levels of food insecurity due to persistent or intensifying conflicts, weather extremes and economic aftershocks from the pandemic. The UNWTO also found that, despite the growth of the international tourism market by 14 percent in 2023, it had not yet reached pre-pandemic levels.

In this regard, we agreed to the need for combined efforts of leaders of political parties and business communities in the region to closely cooperate with their respective governments, parliaments, and other relevant stakeholders to foster a conducive atmosphere to enhance food security and promote tourism in the region.

We recognized the four main pillars of food security, i.e. food availability, food access, food utilization and stability in food supplies, and agreed to work together to enable sustainable development of food industry and stable supply of nutritious food for successive generations through technical innovation and cooperation, and strengthening of national and global supply chain.

We acknowledged that tourism remained as one of the main engines, stimulating our economies and serving as a conduit to sustainable development and cultural connectivity in the region, and agreed to the need for continued close coordination to map out viable tourism strategies which would be beneficial to both communities and the environment, affordable and inclusive.

We also extended our sincere gratitude to Hon. Pichet Chuamuangphan, Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Hon. Chumpol Phornprapha, President of the Honorary Consuls Association (Thailand) for their support and hospitality in making the 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council a resounding success. We also congratulated the Department of International Trade Promotion of Thailand on the successful holding of "THAIFEX – Anuga Asia 2024."

Adopted unanimously on this 28th day of May 2024 in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand.