

Guidelines for the establishment of sister cities in Thailand

Principles

1. Promoting and strengthening relationships by establishing the sister city. The Thai provincial level with foreigners is likely to increase by the order. The main purpose action is to seek cooperation in different fields of mutual interest. This trend is in line with the changing socio-economic situation both at the regional and international level. The result is that countries are more dependent on each other.

2. In the past, the Thai side did not define the founding principles and practices of the Sister Cities relationship in the province of. There is only coordination between the Ministry Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Interior. Adhere to the relationship guidelines local level between Thailand and China by the resolution of the committee subsequently. On August 30, 2000, the Ministry of Interior established a committee to set up guidelines for the establishment of sister city relations with foreign countries at the provincial level to determine the principle district guidelines and guidelines, as well as procedures to all provinces is a guideline for the establishment of relations with foreign Sister Cities at the provincial level, the unity continues. On August 16, 2001 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Organized a meeting to discuss the establishment of a sister city relationship with the Ministry of Interior and other agencies involved. The Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Pong Adireksarn) chaired the meeting which approved the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is considering the appropriate action to establish a relationship.

Related legal provisions

The cabinet resolution of 8 August 2017 approved the principle that Thai provinces should be able to establish relations at the provincial level with each province / city / province. The Ministry of Interior shall proceed in accordance with the guidelines for the establishment of relations and consistent with the resolution council of Ministers on 17 August 2004 (Establishing Twin Cities Relations between Nakhon Phanom and the province of Hating, Socialist Republic of Vietnam). Cabinet resolutions, January 10, 2006 (Establishing Guidelines for Establishing Sister City) and cabinet resolutions of 20 January 2015 on the establishment of Sister City between Mae Sot and Myawaddy to promote Thai-Myanmar trade in the Taksin Special Economic Zone. In the establishment of the sister city according to the opinion of the Office of the Council of State by the authority of the Minister of Interior and Minister of Foreign Affairs Consider jointly establishes the relationship at provincial level with each province / city / province. By the draft of standard memorandum, drafted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or have a little correction and the opinion of the Office of the Council of State on issues related to the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand regarding the making of international agreements. If the Office of the Council of State decides that it does not conflict with the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, such issue shall be approved. The Cabinet has been approved and to be presented to the Cabinet later.

* Neighboring countries, including countries that have borders with neighboring countries include Laos, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, China, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Singapore, media, soil, the Philippines and Brunei.

** Ministry of Interior will bring the proposal for approval from Minister of Interior and Foreign Minister before signing.

The scope to establish sister city relations

1. Establishing a Sister City relationship with foreign countries at the provincial level include equal relations between Thai provinces and provinces or cities of foreign or other names that have equivalent status of Thailand, such as the state, city, etc.
2. Establishing a Sister City relationship to be implemented at the provincial level. It does not include a lower level of relations than a province such as a city or a municipality of Thailand with a city or city that is lower than the province of foreign countries to be united and easy to control. (In such cases, the governing local authorities can carry out their duties in accordance with their respective jurisdiction, laws and regulations. It is based on the interests of the country and the agreement is not binding on the Thai government. If the relationship is lower than the province may be in the framework other than the Sister City. (Establishment of relationship with the city of the People's Republic of China at a lower level than the county in case that the establishment of a relationship. This will promote the benefits in various aspects to the province of Thailand as well as the potential to cooperate with the province seriously).
3. Establishing the relationship of the Sister City may be used with other names such as the case of Vietnam which is called "Establishment of Cooperation" in establishing a sister city relationship with foreign countries.

The rules of establishing a Sister City

1. The province of Thailand can be contacted about the establishment of Sister City relation with foreign countries in the first place. But the contact will not be announced in the spirit agreed to establish a relationship or sign a document with a foreign province, such as a letter of intent or a protocol, before being approved by the Ministry of Interior.
2. Thailand's provinces should also be prepared for various aspects, taking into account the commitments that will affect the allocation of funds and provide staff to support contacts and exchanges in various fields. The action plan and budget plan may be prepared to work with partner countries to make clear and concrete guidelines.
3. Due to the establishment of the sister city, the sister city is bound to affect the province in the long term. The province of Thailand should focus on the best interests of the establishment of the Sister City with foreign provinces more than the number of foreign provinces that wish to establish such a relationship.

The process of establishing a Sister City

1. The case initiated by the province of Thailand or through the provinces of Thailand.

- The province has a letter of recommendation to the Interior Ministry proposed by the Minister of Interior.

- The Ministry of Interior has a letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss the suit.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs to propose to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a letter to the Ministry of Interior informed decision.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports the results of the consideration to the Royal Thai Embassy / Consulate Relevant.

- The Ministry of Interior informed the province to inform the provinces of foreign countries that they have been approached and carried out in the relevant section.

2. The case initiated by the province of Foreign Affairs or overtaken by Embassies / Consulates

- Royal Thai Embassy / Consulate reported by Ministry of Foreign Affairs as received from relevant agencies of foreign countries.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent the letter to the Ministry of Interior for the consideration.

- The Ministry of Interior coordinates with related provinces and proposed to the Minister of Interior considered. Then there is a letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to consider the results.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent the proposal to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall report to the Ministry of Interior and the Royal Thai Embassies / Consulates in order to inform relevant agencies in the relevant country concerned.

3. In the process of overtaking to establish a relationship. The province of one of the parties will have to draft an agreement on the establishment of a Sister City or other names as agreed upon, which shall be effective as in the case of an agreement.

3.1 Where the province uses the draft Standard Memorandum, drafted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. When the province signed the draft of standardized memorandum can be continue and assumed that has been approved by the Cabinet.

3.2 In case, the province drafted an agreement, it must be submitted from the Cabinet for approval.

3.3 In the case where the province is amended differently from the draft standard memorandum, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has drafted. Ministry of Interior is the main unit with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the Council of State considered relevant issues. Also, consider whether there are issues that need to be implemented in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand regarding the making of international agreements or not if the said agencies have the same opinion. It is a minor amendment and not contrary to the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, it can continue. The Cabinet has approved / approved as well. If the agency is a major amendment and should be submitted to the Cabinet. The Cabinet is proposing the case as follows.

(1) Ministry of Interior proposed to the Office of the Council of State gives its opinion on issues related to the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution about making international treaties.

(2) If the Office of the Council of State considers that the establishment of a Sister City not against the

provisions of the Constitution about making international treaties, offer to inform the Ministry of Interior.

(3) Ministry of Interior brought the opinion of the Council of State to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be approved by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Minister of Interior shall submit the matter to the Minister for consideration and approval.

4. When the provinces of both sides agree to establish a relationship. Have to define the date and place and the signatories of each party should be the provincial governor or other equivalent status or representative.

5. Once the agreement has been signed, the province shall report the results of its operation and send a copy of the agreement to the Ministry of Interior. And the Ministry of Interior will report the results and send a copy of the agreement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the purpose of coordinating and implementing bilateral relations with relevant countries.

6. The Ministry of Interior will bring the agreement that has been signed and presented to the Cabinet every six months.

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Please Note : that the Ministry of Interior see that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for overseeing overall foreign policy, consultation and strategic advice foreign policy and strategy, as well as international law to the government and related agencies of Thailand. Should the Minister of Foreign Affairs consider the approval before taking the results or more recommendations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs proposed to the Minister of Interior for further consideration.