

Thailand announces more marine protected areas and steps up fight against illegal fishing

Thailand joined the United States and other global partners in the efforts to combat illegal fishing, ensure sustainability of ecosystems, and preserve marine biodiversity at the third Our Ocean Conference on 15 – 16 September 2016 in Washington, D.C.



Dr. Adisorn Promthep, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agricultural and Cooperatives of Thailand (Third row, second from right), with Secretary John Kerry and high-level representatives from countries that are State Parties to the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

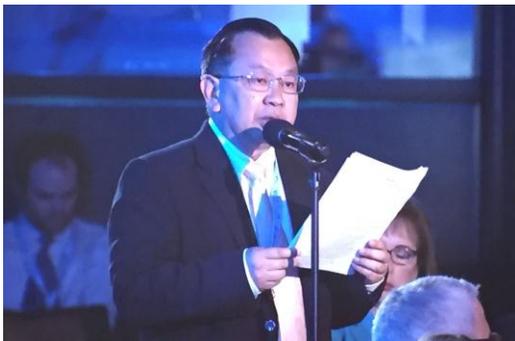


Thailand's Announcement on Anti-IUU Fishing

(Delivered by Dr. Adisorn Promthep, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries)

- **A holistic fisheries reform** encompassing
 - 1) legal reform through the Royal Ordinance on Fisheries;
 - 2) enhancement of international cooperation; and
 - 3) restructuring of the Department of Fisheries to better fight against IUU fishing and better manage fisheries practices.

• **Important practical measures**, such as the adoption of a Fisheries Management Plan; upgrading of Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance by establishing Port In-Port Out (PIPO) centers and mandatory installation of Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS); and ensuring traceability of fishery products by upgrading catch certification and traceability electronic systems.



Thailand's Announcement on Marine Protected Area

(Delivered by Mr. Songsak Saicheua, Director-General of the Department of American and South Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

- **Two additional marine species conservation programs**

1) **A 1,000-hectare pilot dolphin conservation area** in Trat Bay on the East coast of Thailand, in cooperation with the IUCN, with a possibility of expanding it to cover the entire Trat Bay of 88,000 hectares in the future.

2) **An enhanced dugong conservation program** under the Masterplan for Dugong and Seagrass Conservation in Trang Province in the South of Thailand, which includes an establishment of a marine mammal rescue center by 2017 and an establishment of dugong conservation area of 40,000 hectares by 2020.

Royal Thai Embassy, Washington, D.C.
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