

Highlights of Memorandum of Arrangement concerning the Control and Examination of Imported, Exported and Transited Aquatic Animals to Tackle Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

On 13th November 2015, Thailand's **Department of Fisheries and Customs Department** signed the Memorandum of Arrangement (MoA) concerning the Control and Examination of Imported, Exported and Transited Aquatic Animals to Tackle Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU Fishing).

The MoA aims to **strengthen the traceability system** through the integration and synchronization the work of the two state agencies in controlling, examining and preventing offences relating to the aquatic animals derived from IUU fishing upon importation, exportation and transit.

The MoA will strengthen inter-agency cooperation in several areas, namely bulk cargo importation, importation by other means, inspection of the production process, coordination and exchange of information, capacity building for operators and officers, protection and suppression of offense.

The MoA will bolster Thailand's capacity to **prevent the importation of IUU fish and fisheries products**, as well as **improve data collection and statistics on fisheries imports and exports**.