

## ฝ่ายเกษตร ประจำสถานกงสุลใหญ่ ณ นครลอสแอนเจลิส Thailand Office Of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles





Minister Thamanat provides policies and guidelines for foreign agricultural operations, aiming to build strength and enhance Thai agricultural sector abroad



On the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, 2024, Captain Thamanat Prompow, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, led the meeting discussing the implementation of agricultural operations abroad with Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), foreign offices under Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC). In attendance were also MOAC executives and related working team members. The meeting was held at the MOAC meeting room and via video conference.

During the meeting, the Minister followed up the operation of OAA offices including agricultural products trade situation, obstacles to Thai agricultural products which need to be urgently fixed, and the progress in getting market access for Thai agricultural products abroad. Additionally, there is a plan to follow the progression of the negotiations facilitating the trade of agricultural products and food, the cooperation to enhance agricultural technology, and the creation of new channels for farmers to access the markets of Thailand's target countries.

Currently, MOAC has 11 OAA offices in 8 countries around the world including 1) United States of America - Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles; 2) Italy - Rome; 3) Belgium -Brussels; 4) Japan - Tokyo; 5) People's Republic of China - Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai;



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6) Australia - Canberra; 7) Indonesia - Jakarta; and 8) Russian - Moscow. OAA offices are considered frontline agencies of MOAC and have a crucial role in protecting the interests of the country and of Thai farmers. These offices resolve problems at import checkpoints, report regulations and measures concerning agricultural and food products, organize activities and exhibitions promoting Thai agricultural products, and strengthen the relationship between Thailand and the agencies of the countries wherein the offices are located as well as with other countries.

Captain Thamanat stated, "The role of OAA offices is as important as other domestic agencies under MOAC. The two are connected and must move in the same direction. The production within the country must be in accordance with market demands and in line with current global values, especially sustainability standards. The Thai agricultural sector must become more knowledgeable about applying technology and innovation to reduce costs, increase productivity, save labor, and be environmentally friendly, thus generating increased incomes for farmers."

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