



Public Hearing on the Draft Regulation of the Office of the Prime Minister on International Economic Policy for Medical Herb Export

The public hearing proposed the issuance of legal framework for enhancing the export of Thai medical herbs which is built upon a draft regulation of the Office the Prime Minister which is legally grounded in the State Administration Act. The public hearing states that this regulation is designed to resolve the current absence of cohesive international economic policy, a gap that has historically prevented these herbs from maturing into sustainable economic crops. The primary mechanism of this regulation is the establishment of a Committee on International Economic Policy for Promoting Medical Herb Exports (“Committee”) which is led by the Minister of Commerce and includes the heads of several critical departments such as Customs, Agriculture, and Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine. To address specific complexities, the Committee is empowered to establish specialized subcommittees, such as the one dedicated specifically to the export of medical cannabis.

A vital legal mechanism within this framework is the direct reporting line to the Prime Minister, which serves as a pathway for dispute resolution and administrative efficiency. If the Committee encounters significant difficulties that cannot be resolved, they have the explicit authority to seek a decisive order directly from the Prime Minister to ensure the progress. This approach aims to unify the efforts of various state agencies involved in production, customs, and foreign affairs, thereby eliminating the redundant and directionless operation that currently hinder the country’s long-term economic development. By harmonizing international standards and regulations, the framework seeks to provide Thai entrepreneurs with the necessary support to overcome current hurdles in the global market.

Financial and executive implementation strategies are also integrated into the policy to ensure it remains viable without immediate new budget allocations. The government intends to utilize the Thai Traditional Medicine and Herb Development Fund to finance activities related to export promotion. Furthermore, the framework relies on both existing and new Cabinet resolutions to compel various government units to align their work toward the same strategic goals. The failing to implement these integrated regulations would result in a significant loss of economic opportunity.