



The Administrative Court of Thailand

Newsletter

Vol. 2/2025 (February - May 2025)



24th Anniversary

The Administrative Court of Thailand

Advancing Toward a Court of Excellence



The Administrative Court of Thailand

AC News Update

Symposium on the Occasion of the 24th Anniversary of the Administrative Court of Thailand



On 6 March 2025, the Office of the Administrative Courts hosted a symposium on “Efficient Administrative Case Management and the Court of Excellence.” The symposium was part of a series of events celebrating the 24th anniversary of the Administrative Court of Thailand. It featured lectures on key lessons learnt from the Administrative Court of Thailand, the Council of Europe’s European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), and the Federal Republic of Germany. Additionally, a panel discussion provided a platform for experts to share valuable insights and experiences on enhancing judicial efficiency and excellence in related areas.

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The Administrative Court of Thailand had the honour of welcoming Mr. Ivan CRNČEC, Vice-President of the Council of Europe's European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) and State Secretary of the Croatian Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation, along with Dr. Kolja NAUMANN, Judge and Spokesperson of the Federal Administrative Court of Germany. As distinguished speakers, they shared insightful perspectives and lessons learnt through lecture sessions and a panel discussion.

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Symposium on the Occasion of the 24th Anniversary of the Administrative Court of Thailand





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AC News Update

Seminar Entitled “AI for Smart Admindcourt”



On 15 May 2025, Office of the Administrative Courts hosted a seminar entitled “AI for Smart Admindcourt”, on the 11th Floor, at the Administrative Court Premises. The seminar was the part of the project on “Strengthening Knowledge and Expertise in Applying Advanced Technology to Judicial Proceedings”. On this occasion, Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp, President of the Supreme Administrative Court, presided over the opening of the seminar and welcomed participants from all sectors. Representing the committee in charge, Mr. Chamnan Tippayachanawong, Deputy Secretary-General of the Office of the Administrative Courts, gave a brief orientation and an overview of the seminar. The seminar was also broadcast via Facebook Live, Cisco Webex Meetings, and the Administrative Court’s ALL Cloud Streaming.

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The seminar consisted of the following three sessions:

Session 1: Special Talk on “From Vision to the Implementation of AI in the Administrative Court of Thailand” by Mr. Vishnu Varunyou, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court;

Session 2: Discussion on “The Adoption of AI in the Public Sector” by 1) Mr. Winyoo Phichai, Appeal Court Justice of the Office of the President of the Supreme Court; 2) Dr. Paweena Iamsirikulamith, Deputy Secretary-General of the Office of the Attorney General; 3) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tiranee Achalakul, Director of Government Big Data Institute; 4) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chaiyachet Saivichit, Assistant to the Rector for Information Technology, Chulalongkorn University; and 5) Mr. Ekkanut Jinasen, President of a Chamber of the Administrative Court of First Instance, attached to the Supreme Administrative Court; and

Session 3: Discussion on “Driving the Adoption of AI in Thailand” by 1) Dr. Sawit Kasuriya, Deputy Executive Director, National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC); 2) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sarana Nutanong, Vidyasirimedhi Institute of Science and Technology (VISTEC); 3) Asst. Prof. Dr. Ekapol Chuangsuwanich, Department of Computer Engineering, Chulalongkorn University; 4) Dr. Sak Segkhoonthod, Senior Advisor, Electronic Transactions Development Agency; and 5) Acting Sub Lt. Dr. Pornprom Ateetanan, Deputy Division Director, National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC).

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The seminar also included an AI and innovation booth exhibition by tech-expert agencies from the public and private sectors e.g. NECTEC, Ai9, and Chulalongkorn University.





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International Conference

The XV Congress of International Association of Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions (IASAJ)



Mr. Vishnu Varunyou, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court, attended the XV Congress of International Association of Supreme Administrative Jurisdictions (IASAJ) during 2 – 4 April 2025, in Santiago, Republic of Chile. The theme of the Congress was "Administration, General Interest and the Judge". Representatives from IASAJ member countries attended the conference. On the morning of 3 April 2025, Vice-President Varunyou had the honor of serving as rapporteur for the first workshop, titled "Competent Judge for Overseeing Administrative Acts and Ensuring the Preservation of Public Interest". In this role, he was responsible for gathering and summarizing views and experiences shared by participants so as to present a comprehensive and well-structured report of the workshop. In the afternoon session, he also attended the IASAJ Board Meeting.





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International Cooperation

Online Seminar on Administrative Law Principles for Personnel of the People's Supreme Court of the Lao PDR



On February 7, 2024, from 08:30 a.m. to 04:00 p.m., the Office of the Administrative Courts of Thailand organized an academic discussion for the personnel of the People's Supreme Court of the Lao PDR. The aim of the discussion was to promote knowledge and understanding of Administrative Law Principles. This event was held online via Cisco Webex Meetings and took place at Seminar Room 3, B1 Floor, the Administrative Court Premises. This initiative was conducted under the Memorandum of Understanding on Technical Cooperation between the Office of the Administrative Courts of Thailand and the People's Supreme Court of the Lao PDR.

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On this occasion, Mr. Suchat Mongkollertlop, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court, and Mr. Anucha Hunswasdikul, Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court, delivered a lecture on “The Process of Administrative Case Adjudication and Fact-Finding”. Additionally, Mr. Somchai Wattanagaroorn, President of the Budgetary and Financial Discipline Division of the Supreme Administrative Court, temporarily serving as Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court, along with Mr. Prasat Pongsuwan, President of the Personnel Administration Division of the Supreme Administrative Court, presented on “Environmental Litigation in the Administrative Court”. A total of 61 participants attended the academic discussion, including 52 representatives from the People’s Court of the Lao PDR, 4 lecturers from the Faculty of Law and Political Science, National University of Laos, and 5 lecturers from the Faculty of Management, National Institute of Politics and Administration.



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International Cooperation

Seminar on “Exchange of Experiences between Thailand and the Lao PDR on Administrative Litigation”



Mr. Somchai Wattanagaron, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court of Thailand, along with a delegation comprising Mr. Prasat Pongsuwan, President of the Personnel Administration Division of the Supreme Administrative Court, and Mr. Anucha Hunswadikul, Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court, served as guest speakers at the seminar on “Exchange of Experiences between Thailand and the Lao PDR on Administrative Litigation”

The seminar was held from 27 to 28 March 2025 at Souphattra Hotel Vientiane, in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and was co-organized by the Royal Thai Embassy in Vientiane and the Office of the Supreme People’s Prosecutor of the Lao PDR.

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On this occasion, Mr. Somchai Wattanagaroon and his delegation met with Mr. Khamphet Somvolachit, Vice-President of the Office of the Supreme People’s Prosecutor of the Lao PDR, and Ms. Morakot Sriswasdi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Lao PDR. During the visit, the Administrative Court’s delegation also presented administrative law publications to the Office of the Supreme People’s Prosecutor of the Lao PDR in response to its request.

This seminar was deemed a significant activity commemorating the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Thailand and the Lao PDR. It is expected that the fruits of the seminar will contribute to enhancing public access to the administrative justice system in the Lao PDR, while further strengthening the cordial relationship between the two countries.





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International Cooperation

Academic seminar on the Drafting of Codified Administrative Law organized on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Thailand and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR)



Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp, President of the Supreme Administrative Court of Thailand, led a delegation to organize an academic seminar on the Drafting of Codified Administrative Law. The seminar was organized to celebrate the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Thailand and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). The delegation included Mr. Suchat Mongkollertlop, Vice-President of the Supreme Administrative Court; Mr. Prasat Pongsuwan, President of the Personnel Administration Division of the Supreme Administrative Court; Mr. Pranai Vanichanon, President of a Chamber of the Supreme Administrative Court; Mr. Anucha Hunswadikul, Judge of the Supreme Administrative Court; Miss Varadanu Vigaranan, Judge of the Central Administrative Court; Mr. Jamnong Thavornvisith, Secretary-General of the Office of the Administrative Courts; Miss Wanasanan Kanchanaphalin, Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau; and officials from the Foreign Affairs Bureau, together with lecturers from the Graduate School of Law, National Institute of Development Administration (GSL, NIDA). The seminar took place from 18 to 19 March 2025 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Vientiane, in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and was funded by the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.

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The seminar commenced with opening remarks by Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp, President of the Supreme Administrative Court of Thailand, and Mr. Khampan Bounphakhom, Vice-President of the People's Supreme Court of the Lao PDR. Mr. Chulvat Narinhrangura, Director-General of TICA, also delivered a keynote address commemorating the 75th anniversary of Thailand–Lao diplomatic relations. Key speakers at the seminar included Mr. Suchat Mongkollertlop; Mr. Prasat Pongsuwan; Mr. Pranai Vanichanon; Mr. Anucha Hunswasdikul; Miss Varadanu Vigaranan; and Professor Dr. Banjerd Singkaneti, Director of the Doctor of Laws Program, GSL, NIDA.

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On this occasion, Mr. Prasitsak Meelarp and his delegation met with Ms. Morakot Sriswasdi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Lao PDR. In addition, they held discussions and reviewed the operations of the Administrative Court Chamber of the People's Supreme Court of Lao PDR with Mr. Khampan Bounphakhom, Vice-President of the People's Supreme Court. Both sides explored prospects for future academic collaboration between the courts of the two countries.

The seminar contributed to strengthening the close relationship between the two judicial institutions and represented a concrete achievement in justice system cooperation between Thailand and the Lao PDR, paving the way for deeper and more sustainable ties in the future.



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Interesting Administrative Case



Photo: Freepik

The Supreme Administrative Court issued a judgment that resulted in the protection of public interests and the conservation of wetlands — a type of natural resource that Thailand is obligated to preserve under international law. The judgment also highlights the significant role of community rights, as affirmed by the Constitution. Ultimately, the Court revoked the land right documents for areas that overlapped with ecologically rich swamp forests or peat swamp forests commonly used by the public, which fell within the definition of “wetlands” under the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)

(The Supreme Administrative Court Judgment No. A. 242/2567, dated March 11, 2024)



The Administrative Court of Thailand

Interesting Administrative Case



Photo: Freepik

The Supreme Administrative Court clarified the approach for determining whether a nuisance constitutes an impact on the living conditions congruent with the livelihood of the people. The Court found that a rice milling operation generated noise and dust that disturbed nearby residents to the extent that could potentially lead to health degradation or hazards. Consequently, the nuisance was deemed to affect the living conditions and livelihood of the people. The Court therefore held to be lawful a disputed order prohibiting the use of the rice mill until the nuisance was abated.

(The Supreme Administrative Court Judgment No. A.E. 85/2567, dated September 11, 2024)



The Administrative Court of Thailand

Interesting Administrative Case



Photos: Freepik

The Supreme Administrative Court upheld a decision of the Administrative Court of First Instance affirming the protection of community rights to conserve the environment in their residential area. The Court found that a concession certificate had been granted to an individual for industrial mining in a National Forest Reserve despite unresolved disputes with local residents, lack of approval from relevant agencies, and failure to take into account a rapid health impact assessment (Rapid HIA). Consequently, the Court revoked the renewal of the concession certificate.

(The Supreme Administrative Court Judgment No. A.E. 2/2566, dated January 4, 2023)



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Event

The National Day of Kuwait



On February 20, 2024, the President of the Supreme Administrative Court assigned the Office of the Administrative Courts to deliver a floral arrangement to congratulate the Embassy of the State of Kuwait on the occasion of its National Day at Siam Kempinski Hotel.

Ms. Wanasanan Kanchanaphalin, Director of Foreign Affairs Bureau, delivered the congratulations on behalf of the Office of the Administrative Courts.

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