National Policies and Legislation and their enforcement for the protection of migrant workers in the fishing industry during recruitment and employment

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Problems on migrant workers in the fishing industry in Thailand

- Labour Shortage
- 3 D Job (Dirty, Difficult, Dangerous)
- Vulnerable to be abused and exploited
National Policies for the protection of migrant workers in the fishing industry

The Cabinet Resolutions on 9 October 2012
Appoint Department of Employment to set up Provincial Labour Coordination Center for sea fishery worker in 7 pilot provinces.

The Cabinet Resolutions on 15 January 2013
Allow irregular migrant workers to have Nationality Verification from the origin country.

The Cabinet Resolutions on 6 August 2013
Allow irregular migrants in fishery to register with Administration Department 2 times in 1 year.

Minimum wage rise up throughout the country.
Non-discrimination between local workers and alien workers for example the minimum wage (300 Baht, 10 US Dollar).
The category of the fishing industry in Thailand

Fishery zone in Thailand

- Coastal Fishery or Inshore Fishery
- Offshore Fishery or Deep Sea Fishery

Source: Panjarat (2008)
Legal framework for fisheries management and the protection of workers.

1. **Fisheries management legislation.**
   - The Fisheries Act, B.E.2490 (1947)
   - The Thai Vessel Act, B.E.2481 (1938)

2. **Labour protection legislation**
   - The Recruitment and Job-Seekers Protection Act, B.E.2528 (1985)
   - Labour Protection Act, B.E.2541 (1998)
   - Anti-Trafficking Act, B.E.2551 (2008)
Cabinet Resolutions on 9 Oct. 2012

- Setting up Labour Coordination Center for sea fishery worker in 7 provinces
- Operation into 3 parts
  - Government
  - Industry Association
  - Non-Government Organization (NGOs)

Source: Panjarat (2008)
Cooperation between DOE – ILO

- Revision Law and Regulation
- Compliant mechanism
- Good Labour Practice on Fishery sector, shrimp and seafood industry (GLP)
- Information campaign
- Training Module for Labour Inspection on risk sector (Domestic Worker, Fishery, Construction, Agriculture)
- Training Module to improve Occupation Safety and Health in the Fishing Sector
Challenge

- Coordination and Cooperation among agencies.
- Capacity and resources in provincial offices.
- Irregular status of migrant fishers.
Thank you

For further cooperation,
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