



**The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT)
organized a forum hearing views from civil society networks,
pledging to cooperate on human rights proactively**

16 July B.E. 2564 (2021) The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT) led by Ms. Pornprapai Ganjanarintr, the Chairperson, together with the other 5 Commissioners (Mrs. Preeda Kongpaen, Assistant Professor Suchart Setthamalinee, Miss Sayamol Kaiyoorawong, Miss Pitikan Sithidej and Mr. Wasan Paileeklee) held the first virtual meeting, via Zoom and Live Facebook page of the Office of the NHRCT, with over 1000 members of civil society networks listening to human rights concerns raised by them covering issues of civil rights, ethnic minorities, community rights, the right to land, labor, women, children, gender, etc.

Ms. Ganjanarintr referred to 5 points of policy platform of the fourth NHRCT, which focus on proactive works with speed and fairness, promoting human rights culture and supporting the cooperation with network organizations both at home and abroad. Participating civil society organizations presented various opinions and suggestions. Among others, they proposed that the NHRCT, apart from the investigation of human rights violations cases, should raise problems at structural level and systematically, including legal reforms that lead to address root causes of many problems. The right to land, community rights to participate in exploitation and conservation of natural resources and the environment, business and human rights particularly concerned with trans-borders, the right to public health services for vulnerable groups and the poor during the COVID-19 pandemic, the right to be recognized as a person under the law, rights of young children and rights of LGBTIQ were among problems told for the NHRCT's attention.

At the end of 3 hours session, the Chairperson, on behalf of all Commissioners, welcomed those views, suggestions and feedbacks from civil society members. All information was useful for the NHRCT's work plan. The Chairperson also pledged readiness to work with all sectors to advance human rights both by themes and by structural improvement since human rights belong to everyone. The Chairperson emphasized that the NHRCT will continuously hold forums to discuss human rights issues with the civil society.

Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
17 July 2021