

Thai Tuna Industry Urges Swift EU–Thailand FTA to Strengthen Sustainable Seafood Supply Chains

BRUSSELS/BANGKOK – November 17, 2025 – *The Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA) has called on negotiators to secure an ambitious EU–Thailand Free Trade Agreement (FTA), saying it would reinforce sustainable seafood supply chains, protect jobs, and support shared economic and environmental goals.*

“The EU–Thailand FTA is more than a trade agreement,” said Dr Chanintr Chalisarapong, President of TTIA. “It aligns open markets with high standards on sustainability, traceability, and labour, creating shared value for workers, producers, and consumers.”

Thailand’s tuna sector already meets EU requirements on food safety, labour rights, and environmental standards. The industry has vessel-to-can traceability and globally recognized certifications including Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP).

According to TTIA, the FTA would encourage further investment in digital traceability, certifications, and sustainability initiatives, helping Thai producers meet the EU’s evolving regulatory framework while generating skilled jobs in processing, logistics, and data systems.

For Europe, a more predictable and transparent seafood supply would enhance food security and competitiveness, sustain value-added employment in canneries and distribution, and reduce exposure to global supply disruptions.

“This agreement proves that trade liberalization and high standards can reinforce each other,” Dr Chalisarapong added. “It will make seafood supply chains more resilient, sustainable, and fair – benefiting both economies.”

A TTIA White Paper notes that the EU has already liberalized tuna trade under agreements with partners such as Peru, Ecuador, and South Korea. Extending equivalent treatment to Thailand, within clear sustainability safeguards, would ensure a level playing field and support the EU’s open strategic autonomy in agri-food supply chains.

About TTIA

The Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA) is a leading trade organization representing Thailand's tuna processing sector. Established to promote sustainable growth, TTIA is committed to advancing food safety, ethical labor practices, and environmental stewardship across the industry. Its members adhere to internationally recognized standards and actively support the responsible use of fishery resources in line with global principles.

TTIA comprises over 50 member companies, ranging from major processors to packaging and logistics firms. The association's core goals include promoting sustainable and responsible trade, ensuring compliance with ethical labour standards, enhancing food safety, and aligning with the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) economic model in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

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