



PR NEWS

Thai Tuna Industry Association and Purse Seine Fishery Association (Thailand) Signed the Second MOU to Promote Sustainability in Purchasing Tuna from Thai Fishing Vessels in 2025

Ranong, 17th November 2024, 3:00 PM, Sunnyvale Ranong Hotel, Ranong Province: The Thai Tuna Industry Association and the Purse Seine Fishery Association (Thailand) held a signing ceremony for their second memorandum of understanding (MOU) regarding the purchase of tuna species (longtail tuna, Eastern little tuna, and bullet tuna) sourced from Thai fishing vessels operating in Thai waters. **The event aimed to continue promoting the use of domestic raw materials in alignment with the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives’ policy, witnessed by the Department of Fisheries and coordinated with the Thai Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade of Thailand’s Agricultural and Food Product Coordination Center.**

Both associations reaffirmed their commitment to working together for the sustainability of the domestic fisheries industry chain. They **adhere to principles** ensuring that Thailand’s tuna products are sourced legally, responsibly, and without unlawful, unreported, or unregulated (IUU) fishing. The process involves effective vessel monitoring systems, prohibiting child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking, and ensuring transparent, fair, and lawful employment practices.

Dr. Chanintr Chalisarapong, President of the Thai Tuna Industry Association, stated:

- **The association remains steadfast in supporting Thai fishermen** and ensuring fair pricing throughout the supply chain, from fishermen to industry players and retailers/wholesalers. It emphasizes the importance of buyers and sellers operating within a regulated system to promote fairness and accountability. All stakeholders must adapt to align with international market demands.
- **The association has called on its member factories in the southern provinces and Samut Sakhon to continue purchasing fish from Thai vessels.** “From January to December 2025, members of the Thai Tuna Industry Association commit to purchasing 50,000 tons of tuna from Thai vessels belonging to the Purse Seine Fishery Association (Thailand), amounting to an estimated value of 2 billion baht. The two associations will jointly review purchasing strategies on a quarterly basis.”
- **“This collaboration marks a significant step in promoting responsible fisheries, strengthening the Thai tuna industry’s supply chain, and setting a benchmark for sustainable fisheries development in the country.”**

Mr. Nukorn Thareerattanawiboon, President of the Purse Seine Fishery Association (Thailand), added:

- The MOU aims to encourage buyers to prioritize purchasing fish directly from Thai fishing vessels or vessels and platforms owned by the same entity. This practice supports the resilience and sustainability of fishing communities’ local economies. Furthermore, the association proposed that the Thai Tuna Industry Association also purchase sardines and mackerel from vessels belonging to the Purse Seine Fishery Association (Thailand) to stabilize prices. Further discussions on the details of this proposal will follow.