

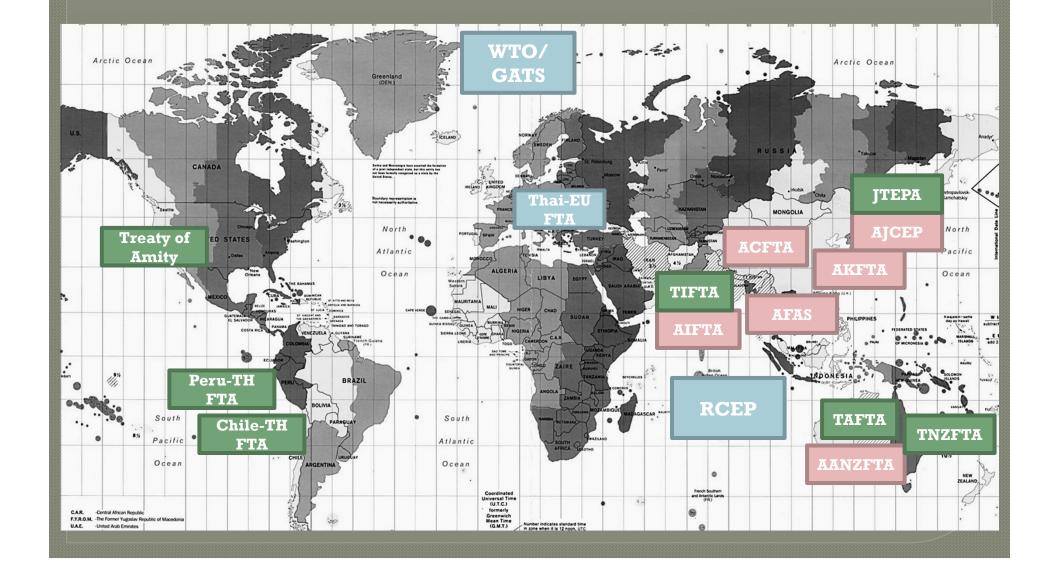
#### **Trade in Services Negotiations: Thailand Experience**

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# Thailand's Experiences on:

**Overview of Trade in Services** Negotiations Structure of Trade in Services under Thailand's FTAs Approach/Modality of Trade in Service Negotiations **Text based Negotiations** Request – offer / Market Access Negotiations **Other Experiences** 

# Overview of Trade in Services Negotiation



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# Structure of Trade in Services under Thailand's FTAs

<u>TIS is one of the</u> <u>Agreements under</u> Framework/umbrella agreement : Treaty of Amity, ACFTA, AFAS, AIFTA, AKFTA Comprehensive Agreement/FTAs where <u>TIS is one of the</u> <u>Chapters</u>: TAFTA, TH-Chile FTA, JTEPA, AJCEP, AANZFTA, RCEP, etc

No substantial difference <u>but it is</u> just a style. The comprehensive one is quite preferable in the modern FTAs

# Approach/Modality of TIS negotiations

## Positive list:

List out sectors to be opened

#### Negative list

List out measures needed to be reserved or maintained

AFAS ACFTA, AKFTA, AJFTA, etc

## Hybrid

It can be anything/many styles where the Parties agreed upon, Treaty of amity

TAFTA

# Positive List Approach

## Almost all TH's FTAs are <u>Positive List Approach</u>

## But!

## some minor differences:

- AJCEP : Standstill obligations in sectors specific commitments

- AJCEP/JTEPA : Transparency list is committed as a value-addition

- AIFTA : No MFN provision, even negotiated MFN

- MNPs is included under TIS Chapter or as a separate Chapter



## A style on of sectors <u>but</u> laws or or measures cular sectors ed and the schedule, <u>f modes of</u>

#### columns as

# Hybrid Approach

#### Limitations

#### Distribution Services

• In compliance with the Ministry of Finance Announcement (Liquor Administration) B.E. 2543 (2000), distilled liquor distribution services must be operated by a limited company under Thai laws with foreign equity participation less than 49 percent.

#### **Education Services**

- Under the Private School Act B.E. 2525 (1982), private school licensees must be Thai-born nationals. Foreign equity participation must be less than 50 percent and number of foreign shareholders must less than 50 percent of the total number of shareholders. The manager of a private school must be a Thai national.
- Under the Private Higher Education Institute Act B.E. 2546 (2003), number of foreigners must less than 50 percent of the total number of competent members of the council of a private higher education institute.

#### **Tourism and Travel Related Services**

• Under the Travel Agency and Tourist Guide Business B.E. 2535 (1992), foreign equity participation in a travel agency and tourist guide business must less than 49 percent and number of foreign shareholders must less than 50 percent of the total number of shareholders.