



19 April 2005

H.E. Mr Thanong Bidaya
Minister of Commerce
Kingdom of Thailand

Dear Minister Bidaya

I refer to the signing on this date of the New Zealand-Thailand Closer Economic Partnership Agreement ("the Agreement") and to the discussions in relation to entry into New Zealand of chefs and massage therapists for temporary employment purposes.

I wish to propose that:

New Zealand will allow Thai chefs to enter New Zealand for a period of up to three years, extendable by up to one year, to a maximum total period of four years, provided that they have a bona fide job offer and hold a Thai national skills standard certificate for Thai cooking. This is conditional on the applicant fulfilling the documentary and other requirements as notified by New Zealand from time to time. For the purposes of entry a Thai chef means a Thai national who has gained National Skills Standard qualifications for:

- (i) Thai Cooking Certificate 1 and who has five years of practical experience; or
- (ii) Thai Cooking Certificate 2 and who has four years of practical experience; or
- (iii) Thai Cooking Certificate 3 and who has three years of practical experience.

Within three years of entry into force of this Agreement, New Zealand will explore the scope for developing a system to recognise the qualifications of traditional Thai massage therapists with a view to facilitating their entry into New Zealand for temporary employment purposes.

If the above proposals are acceptable to Thailand, then I propose that this letter and your confirmatory reply shall constitute an integral part of the Agreement.

Yours sincerely


Hon Jim Sutton
Minister for Trade Negotiations
New Zealand



19 April 2005

The Honorable Jim Sutton MP
Minister for Trade Negotiations
New Zealand

Dear Minister

I refer to the signing on this date of the Thailand-New Zealand Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (hereinafter "the Agreement") and your letter of this date, which reads:

"New Zealand will allow Thai chefs to enter New Zealand for a period of up to three years, extendable by up to one year, to a maximum total period of four years, provided that they have a bona fide job offer and hold a Thai national skills standard certificate for Thai cooking. This is conditional on the applicant fulfilling the documentary and other requirements as notified by New Zealand from time to time. For the purposes of entry a Thai chef means a Thai national who has gained National Skills Standard qualifications for:

- (i) Thai Cooking Certificate 1 and who has five years of practical experience; or
- (ii) Thai Cooking Certificate 2 and who has four years of practical experience; or
- (iii) Thai Cooking Certificate 3 and who has three years of practical experience.

Within three years of entry into force of this Agreement, New Zealand will explore the scope for developing a system to recognise the qualifications of traditional Thai massage therapists with a view to facilitating their entry into New Zealand for temporary employment purposes."

I have the honour to confirm that your proposals are acceptable to Thailand. Therefore, your letter and this reply shall constitute an integral part of the Agreement.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thanong Bidaya', is written over a horizontal line.

Thanong Bidaya
Minister of Commerce
Kingdom of Thailand