



มูลนิธิเพื่อสิทธิมนุษยชนและการพัฒนา (มผว.)
Human Rights and Development Foundation

เลขที่ 109 ซอยสิทธิชน ถนนสุทธิสารวิจิตร แขวงสามเสนนอก เขตห้วยขวาง กรุงเทพฯ 10310
109 Soi Sitthichon, Suthisarnwinichai Road, Samsennok, Huaykwang, Bangkok 10310
Tel: (+662)277 6882/277 6887 Fax: (+662)277 6882 ext 108 E-mail: info@hrdfoundation.org

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Press Release

Trang Provincial Court to read out the appeal judgement of the labor trafficking case involving 15 Myanmar workers in Kantang, against 11 defendants including the President of Fisheries Association of Trang

The appeal judgement is scheduled for January 30th 2017, 09.00 AM at Trang Provincial Court following the first-instance decision made on March 17 2017, sentencing the defendants, Mrs. Somjit Srisawang and 6 accomplices, including Mr.Sompon Jirotmontree, known as “Ko Nang”, former President of Trang’s Fisheries Association, to 14-year of imprisonment each and to compensation of 1,992,000 THB to the 15 victims for conspiring with 3 persons or more in committing human trafficking crimes set forth in Anti-Human Trafficking Act, threatening persons with the use of weapons, unlawfully detaining persons or committing other acts to deprive persons of his physical freedom and putting him into slavery, while acquitting the other 4 defendants (For detailed information: <http://hrdfoundation.org/?p=1803>).

Background

On 21 October 2015, staff of the Anti-Human Trafficking in Labour Project, Department of Special Investigation (DSI) and local police forces and civil society organizations have combined force to rescue 15 fishing workers from Myanmar who had pleaded for help to CSOs. Initially, it was reported that they had been held captive, subjected to physical violence and been denied their full wages. With the investigation and corroboration of evidence by the authorities, the local police, DSI and the Anti-Money Laundering Office (AMLO) have been able to make an arrest against Mr. Somphon Jirojmontri, aka “Ko Nang”, the Managing Partner of the Boonlarp Fishery Limited Partnership and others on 7 November 2015 on charges concerning the trafficking against three persons and upward, an offence against the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act B.E 2551 (2008). The 15 trafficking survivors have later appointed an attorney supported by HRDF to give them legal advice and legal representation including to submit a request to become co-plaintiffs in this case.

For more information, please contact Mr. Papop Siamhan, Coordinator of the Human Rights and Development Foundation (HRDF)’s Anti Human Trafficking in Labour Project Tel. 094-5485306, e-mail: mthaim420@gmail.com
Or Miss Nishkan Usayapant Assistant Coordinator Tel: 097-0919656, email: m.usayapant@gmail.com