Statement on Social Media Reports of Harassment and Violence Against Migrant Workers in Thailand

As the Focal Point of ASEAN Confederation of Employers (ACE) on

Labour migration, and the Secretary General of the Employers' Confederation of Thailand (ECOT), I express deep concern over recent social media content alleging harassment and violence against migrant workers in Thailand.

We reaffirm a principle shared across ASEAN: any act breaking the rule of law is unacceptable. No worker, regardless of nationality, political belief, race, or gender, should ever face discrimination or violence.

However, as information spreads instantly today, it is crucial that our collective response is informed by verified facts and context, so that justice and fairness prevail. As we often say:

"In the big basket of employment, rotten apples exist."

Isolated incidents must never overshadow the collective commitment to human rights and decent work across the region.

Thailand, as a member of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization (ILO), remains steadfast in adhering to international standards, ensuring all workers are treated with dignity, value, and respect. Where violations occur, laws and regulations are in place to penalize offenders and protect victims, without bias or exception.

The Thai people and institutions embrace a philosophy of non-violent resistance. Peace is a core value deeply embedded in our culture. ASEAN employers are committed to upholding this value and ensuring that conflicts are resolved justly, fairly, and without fueling xenophobia or division among our nations.

As the Focal Point on Migration, ECOT will continue to work hand-in-hand with peacekeeping institutions, social partners, tripartite mechanisms, and Civil Society Organizations to promote non-violent conflict resolution and safeguard migrant workers in full conformity with international and national laws.

With full respect,

Siriwan Romchatthong

Focal Point on Migration

ASEAN Confederation of Employers (ACE)